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Spiræa Anthony Waterer.

By Florence Beckwith.

ALTHOUGH introduced into this country in 1894, this Spirea is not yet as generally cultivated as it deserves to be, for it is the brightest-flowered and continues the longest in bloom of any of this numerous and beautiful family. It is really one of the finest shrubs of recent introduction, though it is just beginning to be appreciated.

In habit of growth the Anthony Waterer is usually classed as a dwarf of only fifteen or eighteen inches in height, but in rich soil it grows considerably taller, sometimes reaching three feet. It is useful as a border for taller growing shrubs, but it also makes a fine plant for the lawn and for general planting, as it forms a compact and shapely bush. Where a single, low, flowering shrub is desired, it makes a beautiful specimen. It can also be grown in pots for spring blooming, and is very pretty for that purpose, especially when brought into bloom at Easter. Some florists, however, do not like it for forcing.

The color of the blossoms when they first open is a bright carmine crimson, the most brilliant of all the shrubby Spireas, being darker than *S. Bumalda*. As they grow older the blossoms fade to a deep rose pink. The flowers are borne in large, flat, and rather dense corymbs, or heads, and are so profusely produced that they almost hide the foliage. The leaves are delicate and graceful, somewhat reminding one of a fern. The plant is a most persistent bloomer, beginning in June and continuing all through the season. If the flowers are cut off as soon as they fade, or if the bush is cut back about the middle of summer, after the first blossoming is over, new shoots will start and produce blossoms through September, and sometimes October. Many of the Spireas will bloom a second time if cut back after flowering, but the Anthony Waterer is even a better fall bloomer than a summer one. The plants begin to blossom when very small and are seldom without some of the pretty, feathery flowers.

This Spirea is perfectly hardy here in Rochester, but starts from the ground each spring. It is ornamental from its earliest growth all through the season. When the leaves start in the spring, they are often a pretty shade of pink. It withstands the hot, summer sunshine without detriment to the bright color of the

blossoms, and does not seem to suffer from lack of moisture even when grown in sandy soil, blooming freely even under most adverse conditions. Altogether the Anthony Waterer is a decided acquisition to the list of hardy, desirable shrubs, one of those meritorious and valuable plants of which we can hardly have too many. If one has room for a collection of Spireas they will form a beautiful feature on the lawn or in the hardy border, and among them should certainly be included at least one bush of Anthony Waterer.



SPIRÆA ANTHONY WATERER.

Plants Raised from Seed.

BY FLORA LEE.

Growing choice plants from seed is extremely interesting work. It requires quite a little time and patience sometimes; but with good seeds and proper conditions the results amply repay one. One of the advantages is the number of plants secured, and besides having all we wish ourselves, we have the pleasure of sharing with floral friends. Also we become more attached to plants we have raised from their infancy.

"You did a good thing for the community" said a friend to me not long ago, "when you raised those *Erfordia* begonias from seed." I certainly know that I did a "good thing" for myself, for I had a large number from one package of seed. So fine are the seeds that they appear to be only a bit of dust; consequently they need very careful treatment. I used a cigar box, filled half full of soil composed of one-third each fibrous loam, leaf mold and sand; and over this

sifted (through a sieve made of window-screening) a half inch of the soil, then watered with a sprinkler until water ran through at the bottom. A quarter inch layer was next sifted on very evenly and pressed down with a small block of wood. Then some of the sifted soil was put through an extremely fine strainer, and sifted evenly over the whole. After being pressed, it was left for an hour. This allowed the wet soil to moisten the upper part. When operations were resumed, the paper containing the seeds was carefully opened (I hardly dared to breathe) and a bit of the red powder taken up on the point of a knife, and by tapping it the seed was scattered around on the soil, little by little until it was all distributed. Then I sifted on the thinnest possible covering of the twice sifted soil, pressed again, and the thing was done—so far.

Some prefer not to cover fine seeds, but I have not been successful, when I have tried that way. The box was put where it had bottom heat, and a piece of glass placed over the top. No more moisture was needed for a day or two; then it was given in this way. I dipped a flat brush in tepid water, inverted it in the left hand, passed the fingers of the right hand toward me over the bristles, and a fine mist falling on the box beyond, was the result. Only a very little was given at a time (for they must never be really wet) and generally about twice a day, — once at night to be sure they did not dry out before morning, for I knew that if that once happened they were lost. It took sharp eyes to see the plants when they first appeared. At once the glass was taken off, and gradually they were taken to a warm, sun-

shiny window. While they still looked like fine moss on the soil, I showed them to a friend — telling her where I intended to bed them out in the summer, (this was in early spring) whereupon she gazed at me in astonishment and exclaimed "Do you really expect them to amount to anything?" and she laughed at the very idea. She has since laughed at herself for the remark, as her mother possesses some of the original plants, and is extravagant in their praise.

As soon as they were large enough to handle, I picked them out very carefully and transplanted. When four inches high they were bedded out, and were soon in bloom. Ever since they have delighted us with a profusion of flowers both summer and winter.

Primula obconica is rather difficult to start from seed, although not so fine. I treated them like the begonias and raised twenty-five plants last spring from one package of seed. They were beautiful through the winter. I grew several in a fern-dish, and find I

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Veronicas, Old and New.

By Herbert Greensmith.



ONE OF the real old-fashioned flowers almost always found in old-time gardens was *Veronica spicata*, perhaps better known as Speedwell. Both names are somewhat shrouded in mystery, but there is a beautiful legend as to how the name Veronica was given to this species of plants. It is said that as our Saviour was on his way to the cross, a compassionate woman offered a napkin to him to wipe the perspiration from his face, and the imprint or likeness of his face remained miraculously printed thereon. The napkin itself is said to be still occasionally exhibited to the public from a lofty balcony beneath the dome of St. Peter's, at Rome. On account of their graceful and somewhat fragile, feminine aspect, the Veronicas are reputed to be named after this compassionate woman, who was afterwards canonized and named St. Veronica. A horticultural writer has suggested that the name Speedwell refers to the blossoms of some of the wild species growing by the wayside appearing to almost speak to

fungus is apt to attack them near the base of the stem and cause the plant to decay. I know of no remedy for this except removal and redivision each fall, and care must be exercised in planting not to get the roots all crowded up in a bunch, or fungus is apt to take them again. In planting it is much better to shorten up the roots with a sharp knife, and then make the opening in the ground large enough to spread out the roots so evenly that the soil comes in contact with them all around. This rule holds good with all kinds of planting, though some plants are much more subject to fungus diseases of the roots than others. Much of this is attributable to our careless way of planting, a fact which cannot be too much emphasized. Veronicas are great rooters, especially in dry soils if the stems of the plants become decumbent, as they often do. If we examine carefully we shall find many roots are thrown out from the stem, and as these are all in search of moisture and food, it is necessary that each should be separate from the others in order to properly fulfill its mission.

The method of propagation is generally by division, as each branch roots freely at the base and is capable of making a good plant for the ensuing year. Division is best done in early October, or in the early spring. As soon as they commence to make their growth, the branches or stems may be pulled apart and replanted as above described. As the plants seldom exceed eighteen inches in height, their place in the border may be readily assumed. There are many and various forms, though, some of which will grow two feet high. The variation is generally caused by self-raised seedlings, which vary both in height, habit, color and foliage. They can easily be raised from seed and will flower the first year, if sown very early in the spring and kept in a good growing condition and continual "move on" as their growth demands.

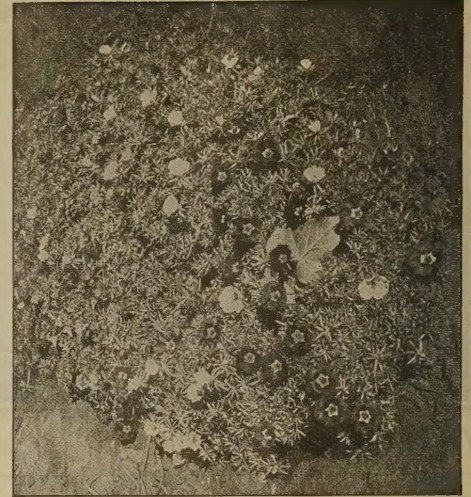
Besides *Veronica spicata*, there are a large number of this genus which are worth cultivating. *Veronica spicata alba* is a pure white form and an exceedingly desirable companion to the first mentioned. There is also a pink form which is more floriferous than the two named and known as *Veronica spicata rosea*; also a very pretty one with variegated foliage, a decided contrast to the others; all are worth growing.

The hoary Speedwell, or *Veronica incana*, is one of the prettiest plants grown, neat, and accommodating itself to any position or soil. It is somewhat like a good form of *spicata* in habit and grows from twelve to eighteen inches high. The foliage is downy white throughout, and when this is capped with its pretty blue spikes of flowers it is exceedingly pretty and ought to find a place in every collection of hardy plants, however humble or choice that collection may be.

Another very interesting and desirable form is *Veronica rupestris*, sometimes sold as *circaeoides*, a low, prostrate, creeping plant of neat, rapid growth, flowering in early spring and making one of the most lovely carpetings of blue imaginable. Even when out of flower, its pretty carpeting of nice green foliage is both desirable and attractive, but when seen overhanging a stone on a rockery, for which purpose it is extremely adapted, its beauty is simply indescribable.

Very different from this is our native Virginian Speedwell, *V. virginica* (Culver's Root) which in rich, stiff soil grows five to six feet high with strong, stout stems, and bearing its leaves in whorls. By some it is considered coarse, but when the giant stems are surmounted by pure white flowers with pinkish anthers,

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Single Portulaca.

BY MARY ELIZABETH HARDY.

The quickest return from the smallest sum of money spent for flowers, comes from portulaca.

Across one corner of our yard runs a brick walk about ten feet long. On one side of this is a vacant strip of ground about a foot wide. This has the full benefit of the sunshine all day long. A five cent package of single, mixed portulaca seed was bought and sowed in this space. The plants soon came up and began to bloom; and all the long summer those bright little blossoms appeared every day to cheer whoever passed that way. No seeds were saved.

The next summer came and for some reason this border was overlooked at planting time. Fortunately, as it turned out later, for the portulaca came up abundantly. Not only in the border where it had been planted the year before, but also over a large rose bed on the other side of the walk, which was about six by ten feet in size. This self-sown bed of portulaca soon became a solid mass of bloom, and was the admiration of all passers. Those roses received no cultivation that summer, for to get near them one had to crush under-foot bright, various hued blossoms.

The third summer we left the border alone, intentionally; and not a single portulaca plant came up. Whether the weather was colder than the year before and killed it out, or whether the strength was exhausted, I cannot say. But if you have a piece of sandy ground where the sun shines hot and strong and where none of your flowers seem to flourish, take my advice and sow portulaca. You will at least make a bright spot out of an unsightly one, even if you do not care for the flowers.

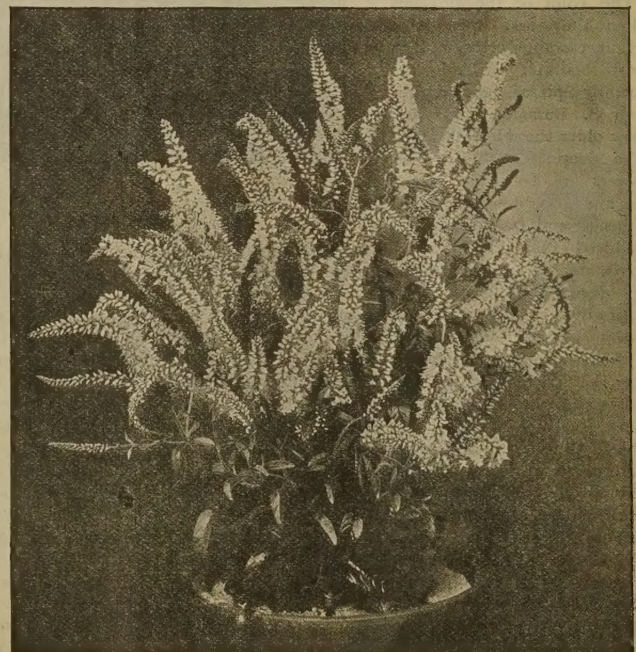


Spray of *Veronica longifolia* var *subsessilis*.

the traveller and wish him "God speed" on his journey.

Whatever the origin of the names, the popularity of the Veronica as a garden plant has stood the test of over one hundred fifty years, and it is still included in many forms in all hardy plant catalogues. And well it may be, for it is so useful both for its charm and grace as a decorative plant in the garden and for cutting to associate with other flowers. To look its best as a garden decorative plant it must have care, for which it well repays by its extra large, glossy green foliage, and by the increased number and size of its bright blue or purple flowers on densely crowded terminal spikes, which continue to elongate until both flowers and seed are produced on the same stem at one time. When this period is reached the flower spikes should be removed. Then if proper moisture and nourishment have been applied, abundant side or auxilliary shoots will be put forth, which in due time will bloom, thus extending the flowering period for many weeks.

The Veronicas seem to readily adapt themselves to nearly all soils and positions, but liberal treatment in the way of some good barnyard or stable manure well repays. In some soils, for best obtainable results, they also need to be divided every year, or every second year, at the furthest, as in our hot climate a



VERONICA SPICATA ROSEA.

COLOR MASSING

By Margaret Flindt.

(A prize-winning article in our late contest.)

THERE is a large circular flower bed on my lawn with which I had been experimenting for several years, but until last year my efforts had been unsatisfactory. It is east of the house, in a very conspicuous location both from the house and street, but somewhat back. It was the only place in the rather cramped quarters of a sixty foot front, where a flower bed could show off with any sort of advantage; and I was anxious to make the most of it.

One year I used mixed geraniums. They did their best, but it was not enough. Then salvia splendens and white vincas in alternate rows, but with rather indifferent success. The next year I filled it with hybrid perpetual roses. They bloomed profusely and I enjoyed them as did also my friends to whom I gave bouquets. The location seemed to suit them perfectly, but when coming up to my home and taking in the landscape at a glance, I could not but observe that the attention of a casual passer-by would not be attracted at all by my flower bed, and so far as general appearance was concerned, my bed was still a failure. So I moved my roses into the garden and began making other plans for my one flower bed.

I decided that it must be of showy plants, and the flowers of varieties that I would not care to cut and I chose red for the color scheme. In preparing the soil I dug out a good deal of the old dirt and put in three bushels or more of well-rotted manure, and about half a bushel of sand, had it dug in and well mixed with the soil which was common garden soil. Then I bought a half dozen Madam Crozy cannas, putting one exactly in the center and the other five around that. They grew so rapidly and began sending up shoots so soon, that I thought I'd try taking off some of them and have another row of cannas. I found I could easily do this by digging down and carefully splitting the little bulb which was at the bottom of each shoot, from the parent bulb; but was still uncertain as to results when blooming time came. I had never divided cannas in this way before and had never heard of any one else doing it; but that did not daunt me in the least, for I take special delight in doing things with plants which other people who are considered pretty good authority, say cannot be done. We had frequent rains and the transplanted shoots were soon as large as the others and I kept taking them off as soon as one got large enough till I had another circular row about a foot from the first.

Eighteen inches from this I put a row of salvia splendens plants which I had raised from seed planted in March in a box in the house. Then around near the edge of the bed I planted a row of red geraniums. The rains continued to fall and my plants all grew like weeds. In a short time the geraniums began to show buds. I looked forward eagerly and dubiously for the first blossom and when it came, Lo! and behold! it was pink. It looked so thrifty and had such a fine start I was tempted to leave it, but thought of my color plan, summoned all my firmness and ruthlessly pulled it out and put it in its proper place with other pink and white ones along the walk, and replaced it with a red one.

Geraniums, salvias and cannas soon began to bloom. Each seemed to try to out shine the other, until the bed was literally ablaze with scarlet! And grow! they threatened to rival the famous beanstalk of the fairy tale. The catalogues say Madam Crozy cannas grow from three to three and one-half feet high, and the latter part of August I measured mine and found them from five to five and a half feet and still growing, and all covered with the largest spikes of bloom I ever saw.

Once or twice during the summer I worked in about the cannas a bucket full of well rotted manure and was amply repaid, so have decided that if one gives cannas a good, rich, porous soil and plenty of water they will do the rest.

My flower bed was admired to my entire satisfaction by friends, neighbors and passersby, and judging by the exclamations of delight and praise I concluded that it was the most successful and artistic of any I ever had, and henceforth I shall practice as well as preach massing of colors.

I expect to have just the same plants in this particular bed this summer with a border added of the dwarf fancy leaved red geraniums.

A GERANIUM BED

By Emma Clearwaters.

A bed that will be a mass of bloom, and a source of great pleasure also, from June until hard frosts come, is one composed of mixed colors of geraniums.

After all danger of frosts was past, last spring, we spaded a bed, situated east of the house, then after fining the soil nicely, with hoe and rake, a couple of bushels of decayed barn yard manure were thoroughly mixed with this soil.

It is necessary to pulverize the spaded bed as finely as possible, else the chunks will not feed the rootlets, and will also allow the roots to dry out. This pulverizing of the soil down as far as the spade goes is one of the essentials of successful plant raising. Fine on top with clods beneath will result in failure every time.

A thrifty geranium was placed every nine inches in this bed, but this spring there will be a foot or fifteen inches between each plant as some of the ranker growers imposed on the other sorts.

Although some of these plants were little more than rooted slips, when bedded in May, before July the bed was a mass of lovely bloom and thrifty foliage, by October some of the plants were bushes loaded with bunches of bloom as large as a pint cup. While they were good varieties, they were not the latest improved, the great luxuriance being due to good soil, water whenever needed, and a drink of liquid manure once each week. Until they grew so large, shallow cultivation was given them every few days, and unless showers came when needed, the foliage was sprinkled after sundown every few days.

Growing geraniums like considerable water, but they must have good drainage, so if the site is not naturally drained, there should be some soil removed, two feet, then broken crockery or coarse gravel to the depth of four or six inches thrown in, then the soil with the addition of fertilizer added. This will raise the bed somewhat which will be an advantage as to drainage, but it will be necessary to sink tile, or bottomless cans, in which to pour the water when needed.

A dollar or less, expended for young geranium plants will afford one an almost unlimited quantity of flowers, and, be a source of delight every day. A bed of red or pink geraniums, edged with a border of white ones, would be a sight long to be remembered, when all were in full bloom.

Cover with newspapers, or light weight cloth, when the first frosts threaten, thus prolonging the bed's beauty for days, perhaps weeks.

Next to Cannas, geraniums have given us more satisfaction, for trouble expended, than any other flower bedder. If one had the chance to try a dozen or so of the newest sorts, the sight would be a grand one, I know, although some of the improved kinds are not adapted for beds.



The Arrangement of Flowers

First of a series of four illustrated articles on this subject.

By N. Hudson Moore.



THE flower-loving Japanese have a thousand fancies with regard to the arrangement of flowers, selecting them for certain occasions with regard to their color and sentiment. Nor do they ever follow our too frequent habit of stuffing huge masses of blossoms into vases, so that the individuality of each flower is lost. Rather one perfect flower in a choice receptacle, than an armful of bloom awkwardly put together. There is one cardinal rule which should always be followed in the arrangement of flowers, and that is to put each blossom by itself into whatever receptacle you select to hold it. In this way it is not so apt to lose its grace, and the cluster when completed, is more satisfactory as a thing of beauty.

People often say that they cannot afford to have flowers; look at our first illustration and see what can be done with so simple a blossom as the Dandelion, and never say again that you cannot have a beautiful center-piece for the mere work of gathering the blooms. I always think that there is no one thing which contributes so much to agreeable meals, as an attractive table, and the crowning touch is always either flowers or fruit. All during the spring one can have a constant succession of blossoms which may be gathered from the roadside, and nothing is more attractive than a few sprays of apple, pear or cherry, which seem to take on new beauty at close range.

For those happy enough to have a garden, an arrangement of tulips is shown, these brilliant flowers looking equally well as bud or open blossoms. One great secret in successful floral decoration, is not to put too many different colors into one vase. Keep to one color, or two at the most and your efforts will be more artistic. In our group of tulips those of red and white were used, both of the ordinary Dutch varieties and of the more unusual Parrot tulips which are striped and veined in beautiful and fantastic ways, which contrast admirably with the cool green leaves.

That is another point too often overlooked by the person who hastily thrusts a few flowers into a vase and then wonders why they looked so "stiff." There is no flower which is not improved by the addition of some green about it, even the carnation a charming flower in itself, suffering on account of its scanty foliage. Observe how the dandelion leaf, with its saw-toothed edges adds to the grace of the bunch, and see how the broad tulip leaves fill out and contrast with the brilliant blossoms. A few sprays of delicate grasses will also be found very effective mixed in with almost any flowers, particularly if their habit of growth is somewhat stiff. They always look well with sweet peas. I remember in a certain old-fashioned New England garden where I wandered as a child, that the mistress of it always grew some gypsophila, or lace plant, to put with her "painted ladies," its feathery stems and tiny blossoms being somewhat like a mist about the gay peas. You seldom find gypsophila now, but it is a lovely addition to any bunch of flowers.



Gypsophila



TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS

By Benjamin B. Keech

Summer Blooming Bulbs.

AMONG the different plants advertised in this year's catalogues, the ones spoken of as summer-flowering bulbs should receive much attention. I know of few classes of flowers that will give more pleasure and satisfaction; and this is saying a good deal. There are many reasons why bulbous plants are, in every way, desirable and worthy of cultivation.

In the first place, they are exceedingly beautiful, and possess colors that, for brilliancy and depth, would be hard to equal in other flowers. The texture of many is also as fine as that of an orchid.

They are all very easy to cultivate; and, if given a rich, mellow soil, plenty of sunshine and water, with reasonable attention, will far surpass one's expectations. Last, but not least, they are so cheap that almost any one can indulge in them;—the poor by the dozen and the rich by the hundred. A person that can have a good sized bed of gladioli, for instance, ought to consider himself "well off." Money invested in summer-blooming bulbs will repay one generously in treasures of crimson, scarlet, yellow, pink and white.

I consider the gladiolus to be our most satisfactory summer-blooming bulb. There is no plant of its class that can equal or excel it. Some of the blossoms possess colors that are beyond description; while others are larger than ordinary cannas. They must be seen, to be appreciated. The gladiolus of today is almost a different flower from the one of yesterday; even the mixed bulbs are worthy of attention. Of course, if you can pay a few cents more, and procure the named varieties by all means do so; for such an investment will reward one amply.

I have not space here to give a list of desirable named varieties, or to discuss the different branches of the gladiolus family. I may say however, that all things considered, the Childs varieties head the list. These have larger flowers and larger bulbs than others and possess colors that are uncommon among gladioli. They are not quite so early in flowering, as the Lemoine varieties, but in growth are more stocky and substantial. The Lemoine gladioli are fantastically marked in many odd colors, and if planted early enough will bloom in June. These gladioli are sometimes catalogued as hardy, but I would not encourage any one, at the north, to leave them in the ground over winter. They will usually freeze, especially if not planted deep.

Although the fine texture and rich coloring of the blossoms might often suggest that the gladiolus is difficult to grow, no flower is easier to get along with. Give it a rich soil, made fine and mellow by deep and successive spading. An undrained soil, in which there is more or less clay is not the best kind to provide. The bulbs should preferably be planted in May, but successive plantings can be made up to the last of June. However, try to get them all underground by that time. The gladiolus enjoys plenty of sunlight, but if the bulbs are placed where they will be shaded all the afternoon, the flowers will be benefited. If it can be helped, I should not plant them in complete shade; but even here they will not frequently disappoint.

The bulbs should be planted about four inches deep and five apart. This rule is not without exceptions, and may be changed to suit conditions. However, I should not plant them too shallow, especially in light soil. The plants generally become top-heavy, and unless they are well rooted, will often be bent or broken by severe storms. Plant them deep rather than shallow. If you can order all the bulbs you desire, procure a dozen or two of many different kinds and plant them in masses, each color by itself. This method will be a relief to those who have always set the bulbs in long, straight rows, without much attention to the harmony of colors. I believe that the above idea has

been advanced by another writer, but it is also original with me.

Six, eight or more bulbs can be planted in a clump. Here they may be placed nearer together than otherwise; and the ground should be quite rich with well-rotted compost. Leave a place for the stake, to which you will tie the plants later, or, better still, provide it when you plant the bulbs, instead of waiting until needed. Old broomsticks are good for this purpose. The clumps of bulbs may be placed about a foot apart; and, if one wishes, may be made to follow the curved outline of a walk or driveway. It is generally better to use them in this way than to dispose of them all in a long straight row.

A mass of scarlet ones may have for its neighbor a clump of white ones; then dark red, yellow, deep pink, crimson, light pink and some distinctly marked variety may be planted after each other in the order named, until the space they are to occupy is filled. Of course, if you wish, it is quite permissible to plant them in long or short rows, in beds or otherwise. Follow this method if your yard is small. The problem of giving the gladiolus proper support is annually presented to those that grow this flower in rows. A



Gladiolus.

good way is to firmly drive two stout stakes into the ground, at either end of the row, and connect these with wire or strong cord. The stalks may be tied to the cord, where it passes in front of them.

The gladiolus should be given plenty of water, especially if planted in ground that dries out rapidly. A mulch will also do the bulbs good. Lawn clippings, applied thickly and frequently, will keep the soil comparatively cool and moist, even during the hottest weather. Everything you do for the good of the bulbs will be much appreciated and richly rewarded. Remove the flower stalks as soon as the blossoms die. They do not add to the looks of the plants; and gladioli are so cheap that you do not need to experiment by raising them from seed. In October, after the stalks begin to die, carefully lift the bulbs from the earth, and expose to the full sun, until ripened. Then, remove stalks, place in paper sacks and winter in a dry, frost proof room.

The gladiolus is one of the best flowers that we have to arrange in bouquets. If cut when the blossoms are not all expanded, the flowers will gradually open in

water, and last for a considerable time. The old ones should be removed. Gladioli generally look best in bouquets when massed by themselves, but white asters and red or pink gladioli appear very well together. So do dark red ones and rudbeckia, Golden Glow. However, I should not experiment too much in this way. Tall, cylinder shaped vases and large rose bowls are the best dishes in which to arrange the gladiolus. One or two separate kinds in a bouquet are preferable to all the varieties in the catalogue. A few of the narrow, sword-like leaves should be used.

The canna is not really a bulb, but in nature it closely resembles our different bulbous plants and is usually classed among them. In growth it is thrifty and stocky; and, next to the gladiolus, the flowers are the most brilliant of any plant of its class. It should be planted in May, in very rich soil, and treated in most other respects as advised for the gladiolus. It may be planted singly as a specimen plant, or in clumps by itself or used as a background for shorter plants. The most common, and probably the most satisfactory way to dispose of it is in large, circular beds. Here the canna appears to best advantage, and a proper assortment of plants will provide one with unlimited and very brilliant flowers from July until fall.

It is not a difficult matter to prepare a bed for cannas. The ground should usually, but not necessarily always, be spaded out to the depth of eighteen inches and substituted with new, rich mellow earth in which there is much well-decayed manure. The soil should be formed a little higher at the center of the bed than at the sides; and, if necessary, given the best of drainage. The plants should be set eighteen inches apart each way, and if your bed is seven feet in diameter, it will require nineteen plants to fill it. (This according to a catalogue of James Vick's Sons.) It is not advisable to buy mixed varieties; three separate colors should be procured, and the tallest variety ought to occupy the center of the bed. The shortest kind should be planted round the outside.

The dahlia is a plant that has been greatly improved within a comparatively few years; people are beginning to realize its merits and give it a place of honor in their gardens. It is doubtful if our grandmothers would recognize the flowers of today as closely related to those that they grew in their gardens of yesterday. The dahlia should be grown to furnish flowers for bouquets, if for no other purpose. The long, wiry stems, the graceful appearance of the beautiful blossoms and their excellent keeping qualities, all make the dahlia quite desirable as a cut flower. Even a person without the knack of making bouquets need not fail with the dahlia unless too many colors are used.

Dahlias should be planted in May, in rich, mellow soil, about a foot and a half apart. If you have clumps of tubers in the cellar, carefully divide them, planting only one tuber in a "hill." Cover about three inches deep, and aim to keep all surplus shoots trimmed down. I should not allow more than three or four to mature to a plant; if you do, you will probably not be satisfied with the size and number of the blossoms. The soil should be kept mellow and free of weeds. If you are careful to cover them on frosty nights, the plants will continue to flower until well into October. Most of them begin to blossom in July. Dahlias and cannas freeze quite easily, especially when young. Be ready with protection.

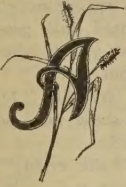
The tuberose is another bulb that all should cultivate. There are both single and double varieties, and the white, waxy blossoms emit a strong, sweet odor. The only thing against this bulb is that it takes its time about growing, and often refuses to bloom before frost. It should be procured early in the season, planted in pots and encouraged as much as possible. Plunge in the open ground in May or June, and if it doesn't blossom before fall, lift it and carry it indoors, where its beautiful flowers will be doubly appreciated.

(Continued on page twenty-two.)

Through Fields and Woodlands



By N. Hudson Moore



S IT fell upon a day
In the merry month of May,
Sitting in a pleasant shade
Which a grove of myrtles made,
Beasts did leap and birds did sing,
Trees did grow and plants did spring,
Everything did banish moan
Save the nightingale alone.
She, poor bird, as all forlorn,
Lean'd her breast against a thorn,
And there sung the dolefullest ditty
That to hear it was great pity.
Fie, fie, fie, now would she cry;
Tereu, tereu, by and by:
That to hear her so complain
Scarce I could from tears refrain;
For her griefs so lively shown
Made me think upon my own.

R. Barnefield.



MERTENSIA.

The melancholy spirit breathed out by this old poet, is not the one that usually animates us in the month of May. By that time the whole earth, as it comes under our notice, is covered with greenery and sweet with flowers. The birds are at their best and brightest, and full of song, wooing their mates with all the ardor of which they are capable, and presenting a most enlivening picture to those who go forth and seek them. They are getting ready to build their homes and rear their little families, and carry on the endless chain which keeps up the species. By the twelfth of April both the robin and the phoebe are almost ready to lay their first egg, the nests being entirely finished, for I have noticed that generally there is a period of a day or two after the nest is built before incubation commences. I mean this in reference to these two birds, for some species put off the building till the last moment, and even then put the first egg in the incompleting structure. According to Gilbert White this is a habit of the chimney swift to whose habits he gave much patient observation.

In this region the horned larks, and the hawks and owls are the first birds to mate and build, but none of these are birds that come under your notice unless you go out and hunt for them. The robin, however will come to your very doorstep and build in leafless trees, and will often select such an uncompromising spot as the elbow of the tin pipe that leads the water away from the roof. I have known of at least half a dozen broods that have been reared successfully in such a place. One of them was at my own home, and for her second brood she went two houses down the street, and chose another pipe crotch, showing that she found the first one to her liking.

There are fewer more beautifully built nests than that of the phoebe, and she will come year after year to about the same spot, and seems to like to build near the homes of previous years. I have in mind one of these birds that has built on the beams of the woodwork of one of the locks of the Erie canal. She did not seem the least disturbed at being watched in her building operations, and when the canal was open for traffic and hundreds of boats passed through, she sat peacefully on her home and attended to her own affairs, brought up her family, and though one of the young birds was drowned, came promptly back this year. I saw her as early as March 29, looking over the old ground, and apparently thinking that she could not do better than to go there again.

The male bird seems to do very little in the way of giving assistance, but he always seems to be in evidence, and perhaps thinks he does his share by giving countenance to the operation. Unfortunately the phoebe has a fancy for using chickens' feathers in the construction of its nest, and these are often infested with lice, so that it makes the phoebe an undesirable neighbor. It is said that the young birds suffer extremely from

these insects, but I have never happened to see any in this condition.

The phoebe is the first of the flycatchers to come; it stays with us all summer, and is one of the last to leave, and even if it is not very musical, there is a plaintive quality to its note that is always suggestive of the wild-wood. Its cousin the wood pewee is more plaintive still, and is fond of building near houses, and does not object to the society of man.

The charms of May are not all they are cracked up to be, at least in this latitude. It is apt to be cold and rainy, and the season does not seem to advance as fast as we think it should. But by the middle of the month there is little left to wish for, and all who can should seek the woods and waysides, for at no time will they gain richer rewards. The first thing that you welcome each year seems doubly dear, the first robin seems to have the reddest breast of the whole species, the first violet is the bluest, and the first field sparrow has the sweetest song. The pleasure of getting out of doors seems more keen every year, and finite things that hamper the spirit less endurable.

One of the greatest charms of the month of May is its infinite variety, you never know what is coming next, and she does not weary you by long stretches of sameness. The fruit trees come into bloom and the gardens are gay with blossoms, those delightful heralds of the summer, the fleur-de-lis showing dozens of shades, all the yellows being most lavishly represented. I am always disappointed if they are not in bloom by the fifteenth of the month.

In the woods are the sweet white violets, and the trilliums, mandrakes and windflowers, and loveliest of all the blue mertensia, which is sometimes called the Virginia cowslip, or homelier still the lungwort, which does not seem to have any reason in it. Lovelier far than the much extolled forget-me-not, this flower makes blue for miles, meadow-land or wood interiors, and every year I take a trip to see it at its best in a certain spot I know, where there are also indigo buntings that rival in shade the flowers themselves; that is, the males do, for the female bunting is a plainly dressed little lady, who nevertheless rules her lord in a very proper manner. There seems nothing quite so satisfying in nature as a blue flower, their very rarity making them all the dearer, so that we welcome even the stiff larkspur to our gardens, forgiving its ungainly habit for the sake of its heavenly hue.

It is a fact that there are very few blue flowers that are native here, for many of those that are so abundant and perfectly at home here now, are importations from



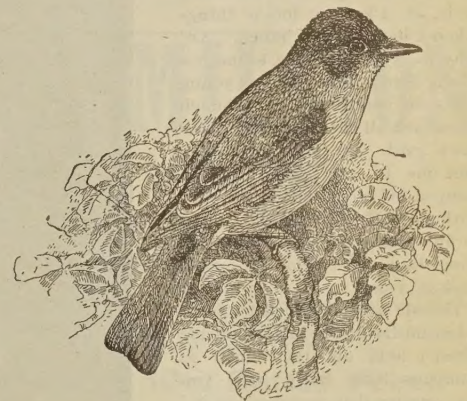
Europe and Asia, our hotter climate failing to bring them to that fullness of color that you find in England particularly, where the forget-me-not attains a depth of color never found here, and where the blue lobelia acquires a perfection of bloom that would not seem possible, knowing the plant as we do here. The color blue not does appeal alone to human eyes it is the favorite color

of bees, according to Sir John Lubbock. Listen to what he says in that fascinating book of his, "Ants, Bees, and Wasps."

"If blue is the favorite color of bees, and if bees have so much to do with the origin of flowers, how is it that there are so few blue ones? I believe the explanation to be that all blue flowers have descended from ancestors in which the flowers were green; or, to speak more precisely, in which the leaves surrounding the stamens and pistil were green; and that they have passed through stages of white or yellow, and generally red, before becoming blue."

In this month there is the greatest activity in the insect world. Bees, beetles and butterflies hibernate in their perfect form. Our moths have come out from their silken homes, and some caterpillars, having wintered comfortably, go into the pupa state in the spring.

When the fruit trees are in bloom, many of our most beautiful butterflies appear,—the swallow-tail, comma, and many smaller ones. The turnip butterfly comes out at this time, too, and you will find the caterpillar of the *Vanessa interrogationis* and the *Grapta comma* feeding on the hop vine. Look out also for the great Sphynx moths the last of May.



PHOEBE.

Do not forget that this is the month when the clothes moth is flying about, looking for a cozy spot in woolen clothes or furs in which to place its eggs. It is the little larva that hatches from one of these eggs that does the damage. The larva of the Phaeton butterfly is easily told; it is red and black, and is often found eating the tender leaves of the goldenrod. If captured and fed, we may watch it go through its changes, till it flutters out in July a perfect butterfly, still black and red, but now like velvet.

The Blossoms on the Trees.

Blossoms crimson, white or blue,
Purple, pink and every hue,
From sunny skies to tintings drowned
In dusky drops of dew,
I praise you all, wherever found,
And love you through and through—
But blossoms on the trees,
With your breath upon the breeze,
There's nothing all the world around
That's half as sweet as you!

James Whitcomb Riley.

Balm o' Gilead

Written by
LOUISE HARDENBURGH ADAMS

"He's got a garden full of flowers, all planted row by row,
Roses and pinks and mignonette a-coming into blow,
And many little pleasant herbs that near each other grow;
Balm o' Gilead, mint and thyme, and sage and marjorie,
And many a dry old stick and stalk, and many a withered tree,
That's neither good for use nor show, and these are folks like me;
And many such-like ones He's got, but scripture sayeth 'Lol
He taketh such and maketh them to flourish and to grow.'"



O YOU see, ma, I did find jest a few roses an' some buds on your old bush, an' I brought 'em into mind you o' the day, cried the old man gleefully, laying his bunch of flowers on the table near his wife. His white face looked wistful. His bright eyes filled with tears as he put his arm about her thin shoulders and half-sobbed, "Wish I'd somethin' pretty to give you; someway I didn't care so much on the forty-niner, an' don't s'pose I will same way on the fifty-first, but it seems we really ought to keep this day."

"Now, pal don't you fret a mite," said his wife, "them roses you brought me are sweeter than a gold ring, with diamonds in it, an' I ken see lots o' things when I look at that bunch. An' why pa, you give 'em to me jest as shy-like as when we was young folks an' you carried me a bunch horseback all the way from your ma's yard. Do you mind you met me in the lane, an' you jumped off your horse to walk with me? How you fussed 'round to find words to say, somethin' sweet-like, an' held the roses back o' you."

The old man chuckled happily, "I mind how you laughed at me when I held out the bunch so pompous like, tellin' you 'you was sweeter than any rose in it,' an' there—that blamed pony had eaten 'em all, an' I held out the bunch o' green stalks to you—jest a feelin' like a green fool."

Mrs. Hallett's sweet old face flushed, her laugh was as clear as a girl's. "My, pa," she cried, "it don't seem fifty years ago since the first time I saw you, or that we've been married fifty years this evenin'. Sometimes I furgot you're an old man, an' then I think I ken see back o' the old in you the young one who held his hat so bashful, an' asked fur some buttons."

"You've got sharp eyes to see sap in this dry old stick, but I ken sence how it is," he smiled, with a clumsy pat on her white head, "for I often seem to see jest past you the pretty girl that opened the door fur me that day. Oh, ma!" he cried sorrowfully, "how I'd like to git you two gold buttons fur today. You know I feel sure buttons was a special providence for me, an' caused me to find you. You see if Aunt Sara hadn't bin so close she begrudged buyin' the two brass buttons fur the top o' the tails o' that blue coat, I might never bin sent fur any, but es you know, Aunt Sara an' Lucy the tailor woman had words an' Aunt

Sara thought I didn't need what folks wouldn't see when I faced 'em; but Lucy she jest wouldn't make that coat without." Mrs. Hallett nodded, she knew the old story as well as he did but was always ready to hear it again.

"Aunt Sara was a saver," she said quietly, "an' did the most o' it on you."

"Well, that time Lucy got ahead, an' she remembered when she made your brother Tom's coat your ma had two buttons left, an' she kept at me till I went after 'em." Mr. Hallett laughed softly, "I'll

time he'll get a pa an' ma longin' or need, an' come home, fur he's our own boy back o' all the world's give him. An' pa," she looked at him shyly, even now it was hard for her to give expression to the deepest part of her life, but this was memory's day and the long stretch of past years held full proof of his unfailing love; "pa' I've got you," she said softly, "don't you worry a mite 'bout me."

"I don't 'mount to much," he fretted, "I ain't ever been able to even say much to show how sorry I felt you lost all o' your girl babies."

"I knew it," she cried, "you didn't need to tell me. Pa it's sort o' strange, but I've lots o' comfort thinkin' 'bout our girls. You see at first, I fear'd I'd lose them, but I never have, an' that's one reason I'm so sure o' heaven. Mary an' Minnie are as real now as when I had them here. They must be livin' an' happy for me to have such a restful feelin', they're some place, an' my heart knows it. God never gave mothers babies to take out o' everything when He took them into the next room. They're just gone to learn somethin' we can't teach, an' mebe when God takes us, His tired old babies home, they'll be ready to teach us."

He turned to her with a smile. "You're a master hand at everythin' ma, even thinkin'."

Mrs. Hallett laughed. "Now pa if you'll bring in all the eggs you find I'll make a bride's cake, an' we'll put on those old clothes we've saved all these years; an' we'll set your roses on the table to sweeten things, an' we'll have our Golden Weddin' time together. She reached up and kissed him as she put the old egg basket in his hands.

"I declare ma, you're bossy as ever," he chuckled, with the pretence of hurrying beyond his wife's reach.

The maid laid the morning's paper near Mr. Thomas Hallett. Before he could open it his daughter hurried to him. "Father," she cried, "Oh! father, look quick and tell me if they've heard anything yet."

"Nothing yet," he answered, "but see here the whalers are sure of the safety of the Portland, they ought to know better than anyone else they—"

"Oh father," she moaned, "I can't endure it. Why did I ever

let him go alone; I ought to have gone with him, anything would be better than this suspense."

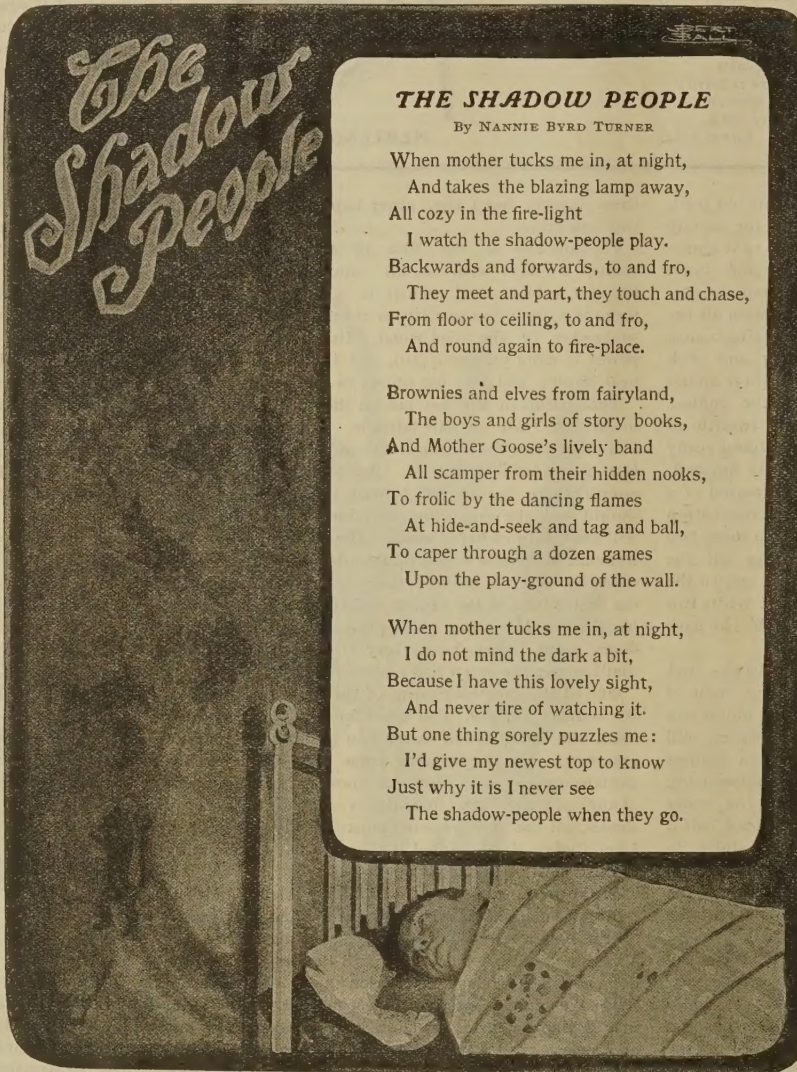
"John's all right, Jeannie," said her father, refusing to admit the fear that troubled him. "We'll have him back soon with all sorts of Nome stories to tell; so keep up your courage and be brave, be a good girlie."

"When I was a little girl I was sick at Grandma's, and she kept telling me that, 'Father,'" she asked suddenly, "why can't we go see Grandma and Grandpa? It's years since I've been there and they'd rest me now. Let us go if we can hear as soon there."

Prompt to act and decide, Mr. Hallett answered at once. "Get ready and we'll go today. I know mother will be just the one you need."

"She'll be happy with me when we get the good word of the Portland's safety. Father do you really

(Continued on page twenty-two.)



THE SHADOW PEOPLE

By NANNIE BYRD TURNER

When mother tucks me in, at night,
And takes the blazing lamp away,
All cozy in the fire-light
I watch the shadow-people play.
Backwards and forwards, to and fro,
They meet and part, they touch and chase,
From floor to ceiling, to and fro,
And round again to fire-place.

Brownies and elves from fairyland,
The boys and girls of story books,
And Mother Goose's lively band
All scamper from their hidden nooks,
To frolic by the dancing flames
At hide-and-seek and tag and ball,
To caper through a dozen games
Upon the play-ground of the wall.

When mother tucks me in, at night,
I do not mind the dark a bit,
Because I have this lovely sight,
And never tire of watching it.
But one thing sorely puzzles me:
I'd give my newest top to know
Just why it is I never see
The shadow-people when they go.

never furgot how I hated to go that twenty miles but when you opened the door an' asked what I wanted, an' stood there lookin' so posy like in that red frock an' white apron; with a rose in your hair, every bit o' sence left me so all I could say was two o' your brass buttons. You laughed at my brass, while I fell in love with you then an' there, an' ma, thank God I never fell out yet, an' never will. Bein' old don't change our hearts fur you are sweeter than ever to me now my old sweetheart, only I'm such a poor one to do fur you. I can't make up fur the babies you lost or fur Tom, how I wish he'd come home tonight."

"Tom would come if he knew," she cried quickly, "an' mebe if his wife had lived he'd thought more, but you know he's a big man out in the world, an' his girl's married well, he's kinder centered in her. He's good in sendin' us money; you know that pa, some-

A DESERT TRIP

By Georgina S. Townsend.

I spent the week of Christmas down on the desert, at the new town of Imperial, California. One has an idea that the desert is uninteresting, and that there can be nothing to interest floral readers, or a plant lover. Nothing is more fascinating, and I could write all night and then not tell you all the things I saw.

In the first place, the Imperial Valley lies from thirty to three hundred feet below sea level. In the valley lie Salton, from whence all our coast salt comes; Indio, famous during the past two years for its early melons, and Imperial, the pioneer of the great irrigation system, which has reclaimed 200,000 acres of desert land with the waters of the mighty Colorado.

A great system of canals brings the water from the river, over fifty miles away, through a main canal seventy feet wide. Three years ago this valley was desert. While we were there 100,000 acres were tinged green with young grain. They raise during winter and spring, wheat and barley. Then in summer they raise on the same land kafir corn, sorghum, milo maize and Egyptian corn. The growth is prodigious and the soil inexhaustible. And every drop of water used in irrigating brings its own richness with it, as it is heavy with silt, the richest of soils.

But to get past these marvelous growths, to other things. A government expert last year planted long staple cotton. The small patch was at Calexico, the border town. It made a splendid showing, and will average two bales to the acre. The expert was enthusiastic over the result, as from Washington they reported to him that it was equal to the Egyptian cotton. While we were there, the cotton was standing, and was full of the pretty white bolls. It had received no irrigation since fall, yet was only beginning to show signs of dryness. It never rains in the valley, and everything must be irrigated.

From Calexico we drove out west. In that direction no water had as yet been turned into the canals, and consequently no irrigating nor cultivation had taken place. I was particularly impressed with the appearance of the ground. It was level, smooth, untracked. We followed the old abandoned Butterfield stage route, out to Cameron Lake. It was eight or ten miles and not a sign of a weed did we see anywhere. There is what is called New River, an outlet from the Colorado which winds down through the country. A wide place is called Cameron Lake. Mesquite trees border the river, and it was a tangle of growth, but the plains were bare. They looked as though nothing had ever grown upon them, and I do not think any thing ever had. But everywhere where the water flowed in the canals, there was a rank growth of weeds. Great beautiful loco weeds, which drive cattle and horses crazy. It is a handsome plant, of a narcotic family. Ranchmen say if cattle or horses once eat it, it is all up with them. They are like the opium fiend, they go back to it, and are ever after crazy and of no account. It is so familiar a word, that Coast people always speak of a crazy person as loco.

Then there was the ever present mock orange. It grows everywhere on the Coast, where nothing else will. It is a vine, and generally borders highways. The leaf is rough and coarse and the "fruit" the shape and color of an orange. It is hard, and poisonous if any one could eat it, which they would not, because it is soapy. The only use it apparently has, is to make the tenderfoot squeal at the lovely oranges—they never knew before how oranges grew—as they are to be seen before orange orchards are reached, as one comes from the East; and the practical use of bleaching clothes. Used as a ball of soap, these oranges are excellent for whitening clothes. They are thus of some use after all. But as a rule they are a terrible pest, if the vines get into a field. I think they must belong to the squash family.

These weeds and many more cover all the water ways, which, after the barren aspect of the drive over west, proved to

me that the seed of all these plants was brought in with the water. Of birds I saw none. Ducks, quails and rabbits are plentiful.

Eighteen months ago they put cotton-wood posts along the canals. These rooted, and are now fine large trees, giving a refreshing greenness to the drives. The winter climate is glorious, dry, warm, with a tang to it that makes one want to run and jump and shout. At night it is cold. The valley is rimmed with the blue mountains tipped with gold at sunrise and sunset. The mirages are wonderful. Signal Mountain over in Mexico stands out alone, and always seems but a couple of miles away. Drive all day, and it is right at the same distance from you.

The Mesquite is a shrubby, thorny, gnarled tree. It must belong to the locust tribe judging from its leaf and bean pod. The beans are pinkish and sweetish. Stock thrive on them, and Indians use them for food. The wood makes excellent firewood, and the roots are as large wood as the tops, so that it is profitable both coming and going.

But the summer months! From June 1 until October 1, that is when they sizzle down on the desert. It ranges pleasantly from 110 degrees to 125 degrees of heat in the shade. But the nights are always cool. The ideal house is one story with wide verandas, a patio, or court, and a ramada, or straw "parasoil." I call it—a roof of straw, a couple of feet above the roof of the house. Adobe bricks are the ideal walls, plastered with adobe tinted any soft color preferable. Such a building is cool any time and there is always a cool draft on a wide veranda. The shade is cool any where in a dry, hot climate. It is humidity which makes one as warm in the shade as in the sun.

The flowers tell their story in fragrance as the birds tell theirs in song.

The First Violets.

(A prize poem in our late contest.)

At dawn a cloud of tender blue,
Within its heart a golden star,
A subtle incense from afar,
And Love awaking, straightway drew
His bow and forth an arrow flew,—
"O Cloud," he cried, "dear Cloud, you
are

So fair! For you I would unbar
The gates of Cloudland!
Ever true, with ardent heart and upward
gaze,

I worship you! My eager prayer
A token that you find love sweet."
With sudden glory all ablaze,
Vanished the Cloud, and perfume rare
Revealed blue violets at Love's feet.

Thayer Rouse.

Interesting Facts.

In 1885 there were only 16,000 to 17,000 Jews in Jerusalem. Last year in the city they numbered at least 41,000. In all, about 150,000 are actually living in Palestine.

Colorado Springs, Col., has the purest water of any city in the United States. The supply is derived from reservoirs and lakes on the side of Pike's Peak, which are fed by springs and melting snow. Chemical analyses of the water have repeatedly shown it to be purer than that of any other city in the country, due to the fact that the supply is derived at such an altitude as to make contamination impossible.

A remarkable industry of Paraguay is the preparation of essence of orange leaves. More than 150 years ago the Jesuit priests, who then ruled that secluded country, imported orange seeds and planted groves, which have now become immense forests, filled with small establishments for extracting the essence, which is exported to France and the United States for use in soap and perfumery making. It is also employed by the natives in Paraguay as a healing ointment and a hair tonic.

Twenty-one years ago immigration, when we were at the top notch of prosperity, ran to 788,000 people in a year. Ten years ago hard times cut the immigration down to a third of that number.

Last year again we went up to \$857,000, but these immigrants were not, as heretofore, farmers, but went to swell the numbers of unskilled labor in our great cities, and were not, generally speaking, of the most desirable class.

Since the inauguration of the school savings fund in Kansas City four years ago, there has been deposited by the school children \$48,261. Of this sum \$32,721 has been drawn out, leaving a balance at present of \$15,540. All this money came in through the 1,544 accounts which the bank carries with the school children.

To Those in Arrears.

We sent bills to all who are in arrears, last month and a large number have sent us \$1.00 to have their subscriptions extended four years from the time to which they are now paid. Why don't you do it? It is a very liberal offer. It will be noticed that these bills were made out at our regular 50 cent rate, as our special rate of 25 cents is intended only for those who keep their subscriptions paid in advance. As this fact has not been well understood, we will extend your subscription four years from date to which it is now paid, if you will cut out this offer and send to us with \$1.00 before June 25th and in addition send you absolutely free and postpaid three of our Famous Fisher Charcoal Art Prints on our special American Creme Matboard suitable for framing, (these pictures alone would cost you \$1.00 each at any art store,) and also allow you a free guess in our Contest described on page eighteen. Give it a trial, you may win a valuable prize. We make you this special offer to induce you to send us your remittance at once. It costs us nearly \$2,000 a month to publish our Magazine and while the amount due us (as shown on the bill) is small and may seem like an insignificant amount to you, it means a great deal to us. We shall continue to make improvements and we are confident that you will receive many times the value of your money. Will you not kindly send us your remittance by first mail? We assure you it will be appreciated.

WE SHALL BUY A MILLION Bottles of Liquozone and Give Them to the Sick.

We have purchased for \$100,000 the American rights to Liquozone. We thus control the only way to kill germs in the body and end a germ disease. We want the sick to know this product, and at once. So we make this remarkable offer. We will buy a million 50c bottles and give them to a million sick ones. Will you—if you if you need it—let us buy one for you?

Costs \$500,000.00.

We publish this offer in every great newspaper in America. The cost of the offer, we expect, will reach \$500,000. We pay that price because it seems the only way to quickly let the sick know what Liquozone does.

The greatest value of Liquozone lies in the fact that it kills germs in the body without killing the tissues, too. And no man knows another way to do it. Any drug that kills germs is a poison, and it cannot be taken internally. Every physician knows that medicine is almost helpless in any germ disease.

Liquozone does in germ troubles what all the drugs, all the skill in the world, cannot do without it. It cures diseases which medicine never cures.

Acts Like Oxygen.

Liquozone is the result of a process which man have spent over 20 years in perfecting. Its virtues are derived solely

from gas, made in large part from the best oxygen producers. By a process requiring immense apparatus and 14 days' time, these gases are made part of the liquid product.

The result is a product that does what oxygen does. Oxygen gas, as you know, is the very source of vitality. Liquozone is a vitalizing tonic with which no other known product can compare. But germs are vegetables; and Liquozone—like an excess of oxygen—is deadly to vegetal matter. Yet this wonderful product which no germ can resist, is, to the human body, the most essential element of life.

Germ Diseases.

These are the known germ diseases. All that medicine can do for these troubles is to help Nature overcome the germs, and such results are indirect and uncertain. Liquozone kills the germs, wherever they are, and the results are inevitable. By destroying the cause of the trouble, it invariably ends the disease, and for ever.

Asthma
Abscess—Anemia
Bronchitis
Blood Poison
Bright's Disease
Bowel Troubles
Coughs—Colds
Consumption
Colic—Croup
Constipation
Catarrh—Cancer
Dysentery—Diarrhea
Dandruff—Dropsy

Hay Fever—Influenza
Kidney Diseases
La Grippe
Leucorrhea
Liver Troubles
Malaria—Neuralgia
Many Heart Troubles
Piles—Pneumonia
Pleurisy—Quinsy
Rheumatism
Skin Diseases
Scrofula—Syphilis
Stomach Troubles

Dyspepsia
Eczema—Erysipelas
Feyers—Gall Stones
Gout—Gout
Gonorrhea—Gleet
Throat Troubles
Tuberculosis
Tumors—Ulcers
Varicocoele
Women's Diseases

All diseases that begin with fever—all inflammation—all catarrh—all contagious diseases—all the results of impure or poisonous blood.

In nervous debility Liquozone acts as a vitalizer, accomplishing what no drugs can do.

50c. Bottle Free.

If you need Liquozone, and have never tried it, please send us this coupon. We will then mail you an order on your local druggist for a full-size bottle, and we will pay your druggist ourselves for it. This is our free gift, made to convince you; to show you what Liquozone is, and what it can do. In justice to yourself, please accept it to-day, for it places you under no obligation whatever.

Liquozone costs 50c. and \$1.

CUT OUT THIS COUPON

for this offer may not appear again. Fill out the blanks and mail it to the Liquid Ozone Co., 458-460 Wabash Ave., Chicago.

My disease is.....
I have never tried Liquozone, but if you will supply me a 50c. bottle free I will take it.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
M 107 Give full address—write plainly.

Any physician or hospital not yet using Liquozone will be gladly supplied for a test.

For the Children

JENNIE'S PANSY BED By Henrietta R. Hinckley

A PRIZE STORY IN OUR RECENT CONTEST

JENNIE and her mother were in the kitchen making ginger-snaps. Jennie, who rolled the brown fragrant mass into thin sheets and cut the circles with great care and evident enjoyment, was a farmer's daughter, a tall slender girl of fourteen, with soft brown eyes and dark curly hair.

The kitchen door stood open, as it was a bright, warm day in April and the sun flooded the pleasant room. A shadow darkened the doorway and a gentle knock brought Mrs. Morris to her feet, from before the oven door, with a great pan full of crisp, brown ginger-snaps in her hands. The spicy odor filled the room with a delicious fragrance.

The stranger, an elderly man with a bulky black-covered book in his hand, removed his hat and stepped into the room.

"Pardon my intrusion," he said, politely, "If you are not too busy will you allow me to show you some illustrations of flowers and shrubs I am taking orders for?"

He threw back the cover of his book and displayed to the gaze of Jennie and her mother, a gorgeous array of brilliantly colored plates of roses and popular shrubs.

Mrs. Morris shook her head, although she drew near and gazed wistfully at the tempting display. Jennie, with exclamations of delight examined them all, asking numerous questions regarding price and care.

"If we could only have two of those lovely roses, one each side of the front gate," and her brown eyes looked appealingly at her mother.

"You know very well your father would never consent. My husband does not care for flowers," she explained in an apologetical tone to the agent.

Jennie pouted a little, but she knew as well as her mother that all flowers were so much rubbish to her father, and he would not consent to their littering up the yard with them. There were lilacs and syringas in the back yard. What more did they want?

"I'll tell you what I will do," said the flower agent, sympathizing with Jennie's disappointment. "If you will give me a dozen of those delicious ginger-snaps, I will bring you a lot of pansy plants from my hot-bed. They are small, but if carefully planted and cared for you will find them to be beauties."

Jennie clapped her hands for joy and hastened to do up a parcel of ginger-snaps, and I guess she gave him over a baker's dozen.

After the departure of the agent, mother and daughter consulted where to put the pansies when they came. It would not do to bother father about them. There was no room in the back yard and they dared not place them in the front yard, so they took Jason, the hired man, into their confidence and he knew just the place for them. Down in the south meadow near the brook, the ground was rich and moist, partially shaded during the hottest part of the day by the woods near by; he would spade it up.

The following week brought the agent with the tiny plants, only a berry-basket full. It looked like a small quantity at first, but when he explained how the little plants should be so far apart, and there were enough for a piece of ground twenty feet square, Jennie opened her big brown eyes in delighted astonishment.

He gave her instructions how to plant them and care for them. "You will have bushels of flowers if they do well," he said. "And if you pick them fresh every morning and make them into bouquets you can sell them in the city. You ought to be able to sell ten or fifteen dollars worth during the summer."

"Oh! Oh!" exclaimed Jennie in delight. "I never thought of that, we can take them with the butter and eggs, I just know I can sell them."

Nothing was said to Farmer Morris about the pansy bed, it was in an unfrequented part of the farm, and Jennie tended and weeded it unmolested. At first the tiny plants grew very slowly, it seemed to impatient Jennie; but when they were once well rooted and started, they shot up their little green leaves faster and faster until they soon covered the ground. Then the buds made their appearance and soon the blossoms. Oh, such blossoms! all the colors of the rainbow. What a constant delight it was to mother and daughter; every morning unfolded new beauties.

The first morning there was a sufficient number of blossoms to pick, Jennie gathered them reluctantly, it seemed such a pity to divest the bed; but the next morning when she found double the number of blossoms in place of those she had picked, she was quite happy.

She made them into fragrant bunches, circled with their own green leaves, and with much trepidation, offered them for sale among her mother's customers. As she only asked the modest sum of ten cents, they sold rapidly, and Jennie could even have sold more.

Every day she carried her pansies to the city and sold them, often returning with more money than her mother received for her butter and eggs.

"Don't let us tell father until after they are all sold, then we will surprise him. I do not think he will object to our having flowers any longer," and Jennie's eyes sparkled mischievously.

After the last pansy had been picked and sold, Jennie counted her earnings and found she had twenty-seven dollars and thirty cents; enough for a new winter coat and mother a new dress.

When Jennie told her father, he was incredulous at first, and she had to explain from beginning to end.

"And you have made all that money off that little patch of posies! Why, it is more than I cleared on my big turnip patch; and only cost you a dozen ginger-snaps. Well, well, that does beat all. Gosh! Jennie, you can plant the whole south meadow next summer, and I won't say a word."

The Bluebird Family.

A bluebird sat on the branches bare, Swinging free in the mild spring air. And there he swung, as, day by day, Swiftly the glad hours sped away.

A little mate and a nest had he Hidden safe in the old oak tree. Neither girl nor boy could find A nest so hidden from foes unkind.

Soon, 'midst the glad days of June, Papa Bluebird changed his tune; Four little fledgelings must be fed And a busy life the parents led.

The summer days passed swiftly by, Little fledgelings now could fly; Soon away to the south they flew To seek a home where the scenes are new.

Soon on the boughs of southern trees, The bluebirds swing in the soft sea breeze; From family cares, they now are free And they fill the air with songs of glee.

Katie B. Rigoulot.

Albert's Arbor Day.

By Alice May Douglas

It was rather strange, wasn't it? that Albert's birthday should come upon Arbor Day, yet it happened very nice indeed this year that it was so.

Albert was the first one up that Arbor Day morning. The night before he had said that he would be, for he wanted to see what presents he would have and these were always waiting for him in the sitting room every birthday. Mamma, papa, and sister Mamie had thought that he would oversleep but he did not, but everyone else in the house, even the kitty, were fast asleep when he crept down stairs in his slippers and opened the sitting room door.

And what did he see? His present of course. And what was his present? It



was a cart—a real large cart too, and as if that were not gift enough it was just full of other nice things all for Albert.

"O my!" exclaimed Albert in so loud a voice that the kitty upon the rug in front of the fireplace awoke and began to mew.

As to Albert, he began to see what his presents were. Package after package he took out of that cart and unwrapped just as fast as he could and what did he find in them? Well, there was a watch in one; a harmonica in another, candy in another, nuts in another. Then there were games and books and in the very bottom a set of farming tools—a shovel, spade, hoe and rake. These Albert liked best of all, that is, best of all next to the cart itself.

Albert had not got half through looking at his presents before mamma and papa and Mamie came into the room, and then he had such a nice time showing these to them. He was trying to guess who gave him this and that and not one of them did he guess right but his cart. "I know that no one but a man would know the very kind of a cart a boy wanted," he had said.

When the breakfast bell rang Albert was sorry for the first time that year you may be sure, to leave his play for breakfast, for Albert happened to be one of those little boys who always have an excellent appetite for breakfast.

After breakfast, papa said, "Since it is Arbor Day and Albert's birthday I will take an hour from the office and go into the grove to get him a tree for a present."

"And can I go too, papa?" cried Albert.

"Of course," answered papa, "How could I get the tree home without you and your cart?"

"And can I go, too?" asked Mamie. "Certainly," said papa.

So Albert and Mamie went with their father to the grove not far off and of course Albert took his new spade and shovel. Albert chose a beautiful little pine for his tree and Mamie chose a maple for hers. When these had been carefully taken up and put in the cart, Albert said, "There's plenty of room here for another tree and I'm going to take up that young spruce."

He pointed to a graceful little tree growing upon a ledge green with the moist spring moss.

"It does seem too beautiful to leave behind," said papa, "but what will you do with it after you get it home? There is no room in our yard for trees, you know."

"O I know what I will do with it," replied Albert. "I do and I do and I do."

It took Mr. Price and the children longer to go home than it had to come to the grove, for Albert had to go very carefully with his load of trees, and papa and Mamie had to walk on either side to keep them from falling off the cart.

The greatest sport of all was finding a place in the yard for the trees and setting them out. When this was done, Albert said, "Now, I'll see about my other tree. I think I will take that down to Mrs. Barrows. She likes trees so well."

I heard her say that she did one time and she don't have anyone to go into the woods and get one for her—not even a husband."

So Albert and Mamie carried the spruce to the poor widow upon the next street. They took Albert's garden tools with them and had it all set out before Mrs. Barrows knew anything about it.

When Albert at last knocked at her door and she came to see who was there, she caught sight of the beautiful spruce as soon as she did of him.

"Why, what is that?" were her first words.

"An Arbor Day tree we have brought you and set out for you," replied Mamie.

"Yes, I brought it in my new cart," explained Albert. "It is my birthday too, and this is my present."

Then Mrs. Barrows must put a veil over her head and come out to see the tree and the cart, and if anyone was ever pleased with an Arbor Day tree it was she.

"You couldn't have brought me anything that I would have liked better," she said, "And if it ever gets big enough for the birds to come and build in it, how happy I shall be."

"And I think it will," said Mamie, "for other trees do."

Then the children gathered up the tools and returned home.

The Heart of the Tree.

What does he plant who plants a tree?

He plants a friend of sun and sky;

He plants the flag of breezes free;

The shaft of beauty towering high;

He plants a home to heaven anigh

For song and mother-croon of bird

In hushed and happy twilight heard—

The treble of heaven's harmony—

These things he plants who plants a tree.

What does he plant who plants a tree?

He plants cool shade and tender rain,

And seed and bud of days to be,

And years that fade and flush again;

He plants the glory of the plain;

He plants the forest's heritage;

The harvest of the coming age;

The joy that unborn eyes shall see—

These things he plants who plants a tree.

What does he plant who plants a tree?

He plants, in sap and leaves and wood,

In love of home and loyalty,

And far-cast thought of civil good—

His blessing on the neighborhood

Who in the hollow of his hand

Holds all the growth of all our land—

A nation's growth from sea to sea

Stirs in his heart who plants a tree.

Century.

The contents of small stores in Seoul, Korea, are in many cases worth not more than a dollar or two.



The Household

House Cleaning.

By Josephine Worthington.

"For every evil under the sun
There is a remedy or there is none.
If there be one try and find it
If there be none never mind it."

Preliminary Work—Before the actual cleaning of the rooms, it is a good plan to put in order every bureau, trunk, box, etc. Make ready a place for the furs and winter garments—that is a task all by itself and requires just the right sort of day—but in the case of furs we must get ahead of the season, for moths and carpet beetles which seek quiet dark places in all kinds of woolen materials, often in crevices in doors, closets and boxes. If you buy a few ounces of oil of red cedar and apply with small brush to cracks and grooves, tops of doors and baseboards in closets. It will make them moth-proof for some time. Use very little oil—not enough to soil anything it comes in contact with—it makes a reddish yellow stain hard to remove. Brush the furs and shake well. Hang in the sun for several hours. If you have a suspicion that there are eggs in the furs, comb each piece of fur well. For garments to be hung up make cotton bags. Treat boxes to cedar oil—line with paper—when full lay a piece of newspaper so it comes well over all sides, then put on the cover—label the contents. Dresses that positively can not be worn again will pack much better if ripped up—and all the materials assorted. Have a box for laces, another for ribbons, one for millinery—flowers, wire, etc. When putting garments in a trunk or chest, pin each in a separate newspaper and label.

Disposition of Articles of Doubtful Value—This is one of the difficult problems to those who have kept house for some time. It is a good plan to have a box or basket in a handy place in which to put every piece of cast off clothing to be given away, another basket for books or magazines to send to the hospital. The Salvation Army Officers would be very grateful also for any household articles.

Old Hats—Felt is fine for the soles of children's bed slippers. Cut a pattern from the shoe.

Worn Out Stockings—The wool ones make a good mop; long cotton ones will serve as dusters by cutting off the foot and opening. For a stove cleaner slip one sock into the foot of the other and draw on the hand.

Quilts—Old quilts can be washed, the covers removed and recovered with unbleached cotton for mattress covers. For new quilts make a cap of the same material to fit over each end about eighteen inches deep. Baste on and when soiled these can be easily removed and washed. For flannel blankets make a cap of cheese cloth or cotton.

Two Makeshifts—I. Are there cracks in the stove bricks? Fill them with a few cent's worth of fine clay; allow to dry for a day or two. This will make them last through the summer while the gas stove is used principally. II. Plumbing in rented houses is not always perfect, the opening to the waste pipe in cellar should have a tight fitting cover. When there is none, a common flower pot filled with earth and a few lumps of charcoal will answer as a makeshift. Pour a pail of salsoda water down once a week.

Lack of Bureau Room—An old chest restrained and varnished is ideal for sewing materials and garments to be mended. A box long enough for a dress skirt is fine for summer dresses. Pad the top and cover with figured creton. Have small brass hinges for the lid-lifters on the ends (these cost only four or five cents apiece) castors if desired. A cracker box fixed the same way will hold baby's clothing.

Shelves for Children's Books—A box covered with the same paper as the room can be fastened to the wall, or a shelf on brackets with piece nailed on each end to brace the books can easily be made. For games and toys have a good sized box to sit on the floor; make two or three shelves from the cover to fit inside; stain to harmonize with furniture.

To Wash Lace Curtains, that seem almost too far gone for use, fold each as you would a letter from top and bottom, gather up into folds crosswise, lay in a bag made of white mosquito netting; wash in a large bath tub or a smaller tub in kitchen sink so the water can be changed many times without much handling of the curtains. Soak first in several cold waters, then make a suds of home made or Ivory soap with tablespoonful of borax added, press the dirt out, let the water run off, rinse thoroughly. All handling must be with the strain lengthwise of the goods. Put a clean broom handle or stick across the tub, let the curtains hang over to drain while you make the bluing water and later the starch water. Again put over the stick while you gently squeeze them—never twist or wring. Lay some old sheets on an unused or attic floor. In pinning down the curtains be sure not to strain them crosswise but pin the top and bottom before the sides, placing a pin in each scallop. While still damp put pieces of starched net or footing over the rents, fasten these patches with number 100 thread after the curtains are hung.

Renovating Pillows—Some people still like to clean feathers at home in preference to sending them away. One way—Empty one pillow at a time into a tub of tepid water using Fels Naptha soap and a little borax. After washing lift up into a colander, drain and drop into bags of cheese cloth made twice the size of the pillow. These can be turned and tossed to dry for several days of good breezy weather, avoid much sun as it draws the oil from the feathers. Another way is to open the pillow case a short way, sew on to the bag, shake from one to the other, then wash and dry. In either case sew the clean tick to the bag when returning the feathers.

Carpets—If all carpets are made into rugs much of the agony of house cleaning is avoided. Hem the ingrain, bind the Brussels with strips of denim. A tack in each corner and a few over the door sill is an easy matter, so that every few weeks they can be rolled up and hung out doors for some strong arm to whip. A carpet sweeper will suffice the rest of the time and the dirt can not remain in the house. When you desire a carpet lining, stretch a couple of strips of tape across the breadths to hold them in place; tack only the ends and cover with a layer of newspapers which can be lifted, dust and all and burned as often as necessary. If you put away rugs for the summer, roll in newspapers and tightly tie in bags of denim.

Extra Hints—To wash bric-a-brac use camel's hair brush with warm water and castile soap.

To remove spots of paint on the window glass make a strong solution of potash or lye. Apply with a swab and when nearly dry rub off with a woolen cloth. Be careful it does not get on hands or clothing.

To clean drains and sinks dissolve a can of lye in about a gallon of water, stir with a stick till dissolved—an old earthen pitcher is good for the purpose. Pour down the kitchen sink and all drain pipes once a month, it will keep them in good order. To clean the drain pipes from bath tub and set bowls use a swab of cotton attached to a strong crochet hook.

Lay newspapers over bed slats before putting on the springs.

When the beds are taken down remember to oil the castors.

(Continued on page twenty-three)

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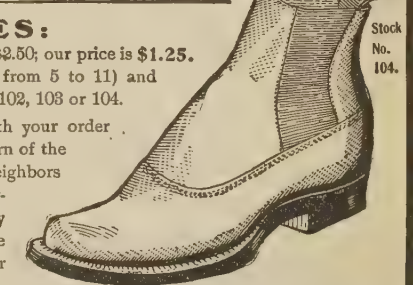
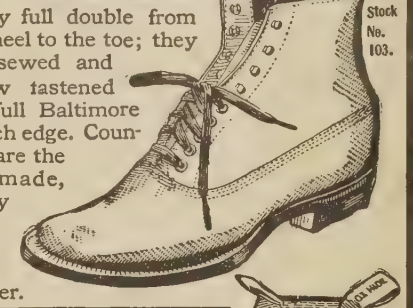
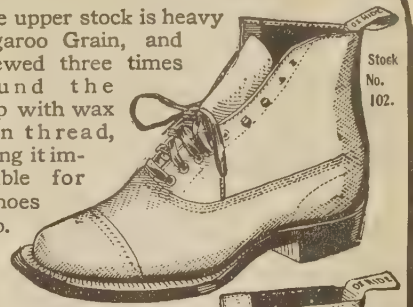
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THE MOTHER'S MEETING

"God could not be everywhere—so He made Mothers."

By Victoria Wellman.



NOTE—Letters requesting private reply should be addressed to Victoria Wellman, care of Vick's Family Magazine, Rochester, N. Y. All letters accompanied by a stamp will receive reply in due order.

Somebody.

Somebody did a golden deed;
Somebody proved a friend in need;
Somebody sang a beautiful song;
Somebody smiled the whole day long;
Somebody thought, "'Tis sweet to live."

Somebody said, "I'm glad to give."
Somebody fought a valiant fight;
Somebody lived to shield the right;
Was that somebody you?

Busy Mothers.

"Patience or persistence, which rule will work best?" pondered a weary woman. She lay temporarily an invalid and was each day brought down by the husband's aid to recline on a couch in the dining room alcove, and now, helpless to alter matters she had time to observe, reflect, decide on new and better methods to remedy the faults she detected; for true to the old rule, "when the cat's away the mice will play," the before suppressed peculiarities of her children ran riot and those hired by the day to help her keep the house going vowed "them young'uns are fit to kill a well woman, let alone a sick one," and while at first saddened to deepest gloom at last a sense of determination arose. Some of their faults were childish tricks and needed rules and discipline; some were hereditary traits and needed love and advice—and firmness; some, she saw now, were results of mistaken home laws, of deferred or irregular punishments; some were ignorance and thoughtlessness combined; all these were doubtless curable by patience. But there was one fault which seemed incurable though orders and rules had been endlessly made, though coaxing talks, bribes, and punishment had been employed.

Ask any energetic woman on whose shoulders rests all the burdens of a household where six or more lively urchins must be fed, clothed, and trained, what fault most annoys her, most upsets her household system, most ruins each day, and this will be her reply, "Late irregular breakfasts." Too true! And the best hired service will desert a home because of this trait. The need to hurry, trying to catch that lost precious hour or more spent fuming or resigned waiting tardy breakfasters is enough to sour a saint's temper and surely exhausts feeble women. She who could put her ambition and love into daintily served meals soon sinks into apathetic bitterness.

This was Mrs. Goodwoman's special cross. Daily she woke her children at a reasonable hour, daily urged them to hurry their dressing—nay, had begged and wept in vain. So long as unpunished it continued, and a punishment only left muttering rebels in her camp. Now this hurt more than all, so for peace's sake she for months had done all her own heavy work only now and again warning her careless home folk that soon her strength would fail for she was ill and weak—and discouraged. Let any woman feel discouraged and the natural end comes unnaturally quick. Thus when the young daughter whose proneness to not rise by an alarm clock's voice and to be one hour dressing herself, an endless time of misery dressing a small sister (who then appeared half respectable and wholly miserable from the clash of tempers daily a part of this process,) when called to the kitchen accidentally, found her mother lying speechless on the floor, the shock did for her what the mother's entreaties or reprofs never had—opened her eyes to her mother's value,

to her mother's cares. She saw in one lightning flash the dreariness of hopeless labor. Would she ever do as well, suffer so long from such needless cares and endure it as mother did "for Peace?" She shivered at the unwelcome idea; yet with the harsh and sullen exterior still so strong she did not confess to her mother these revelations—but she had risen daily, assumed the morning's cares and learned the joys or pains of driving and coaxing unruly and tardy people. She now realized why mother was "all tired out by 10 a. m."

On again resuming her labors Mrs. Goodwoman followed her new rules. Breakfast hour was now 6:30 a. m., for all over six years, and any one failing to come on time—unless a supremely good excuse could be shown—found no plate laid and was allowed a bread and butter meal in the lonely kitchen. Little folks she bathed after the dishes, etc. had been rushed through by several pairs of hands, and gave them simple food and plenty of fruit and milk. Any very flagrant disorder or tardiness caused a "meditation" spell and the few whippings given were always for just causes. On a slate in the dining room was written each one's name and each week the tardy marks were summed up and when they reached a given limit a set punishment followed. It was sometimes having to wash dishes or mend or some distasteful job for an entire week. Persistence in this new way worked better than patience and Mrs. Goodwoman's sons and daughters learned that they could be as punctual at home as at school or abroad.

Young Mothers.

"Something to live for came to the place
Something to die for maybe,
Something to give even sorrow a grace,
And yet it was only a baby!
Cooing and laughter and gurgles and cries,

Dimples for tenderest kisses;
Chaos of hopes and raptures and sighs,
Chaos of fears and blisses.
Last year, like all years, the rose and the thorn,

This year a wilderness maybe,
But Heaven stopped under the roof on the morn
That it brought there only a baby."

"Your babies are always good you know," wrote a friend. The mother who read this smiled then fell to pondering "why," for it was true that her babies seemed always of the brand called "good" and even her sickliest had in babyhood an enviable way of not disarranging home plans. Just why, she felt was a delicate question for it was doubtless to "little things." These are some of the "little things" this mother of six "good" babies did. Let her wee babes wear tiny caps to shield sensitive and often bald heads from air currents not perceptible to adults.

Used a bath thermometer and had it register ninety-eight degrees for a warm bath in a warm room, and received baby into a snugly-downy bath apron warm as toast.

Put no prickly flannels next to skin night or day.

Never used a diaper twice but washed every wetted one daily.

Altered the baby's position occasionally and rubbed the little limbs and back until stretching relieved the weariness. A nightly rubbing and change of garments and a daily sunbath with a weekly oil rub.

Made sure baby's cries were due

Superb Fashion Catalogue FREE

Shows the latest and smartest hats, skirt waists, shirt waist suits, skirts, suits, jackets, raincoats, etc., at actual manufacturers' prices. This great fashion guide is worth \$25.00 to every woman. Write for it to-day. **Handsome Walking Skirt (made to order) only \$2.95** Worth \$5.00

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Vick's Family Magazine

THE LEADING HORTICULTURAL JOURNAL OF AMERICA.



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PUBLISHED BY

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FRANCIS C. OWEN, Pres. CHARLES E. GARDNER, Treas.

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neither to colic, wetting, cold nor hunger; then made it a rule to not lift baby each time he coaxed though she might bend over and kiss him but say "No, no," which very soon he learned. When cries had caused some wind to be inhaled she would lift to give him hot water in a nursing bottle.

Had a system for feeding, bathing, and exercising baby.

Did not rock and sing walk him to sleep the first two months.

Fed him nothing but mother's milk—and dieted herself.

Spoke in a low, quiet voice and allowed no jars nor trotting nor quick rough movements to alarm the baby.

These and similar "little things" are the rules for daily training of "good babies."

"Oh, heart of mine, we shouldn't

Worry so!

What we've missed of calm we couldn't

Have, you know!

What we've met of bitter pain

We can better meet again,

If it blow!

For we know not every morrow,

Can be sad;

So, forgetting all the sorrow

We have had,

Let us fold away our fears,

And through all the coming years,

Just be glad."

THE LOVER'S WORLD.

After reading "The Lover's World" an irresistible conviction rises supremely superior to all existing hindrances to a truly better life that love, simple, sweet and strong, is the cure for all evil. Yet to a lonely heart the confidence needed to grasp this thought as a fact to live by comes often belated, and years pass in misery or threatened separation of hearts and minds which might be spent in the delight of loving not alone one's married mate but many whom love wins and holds.

The testimonials written so warmly and freely but assure one that the theories of "The Lover's World" are things to live as well as to dream. Its benefits are not alone of a spiritualized type but mean also physical health. It is truly a book for husband and wife to read together—and a mutual understanding of love and life is a golden tie between such mates for life. "It is indeed a Love Book and will warm your heart with new hopes."

Note—Dear sisters I wish to make a special request of those who receive the "special installments" of the libraries. Please be prompt to forward to next party. If each one delays one day seven ladies by so doing will have held someone, perhaps heartsick for need of this very advice, from having such help for one week. Moreover it will increase labor for me to have to urge you by special letter. Love has prompted the idea of helping, in love's name I therefore ask all to "pass it on" and wish good luck and joy to the next recipient.

Editorial.

If you find a man who thinks he knows it all just ask him to name the men whose pictures appear in our great educational contest announced on page eighteen. Ten to one he will not be able to name half of them. He will get down his old school history and look them up and will probably call on the children and his wife and perhaps some of the neighbors before making up his list. If you think it is easy just try your hand at it. This contest is arousing a whirlwind of interest among our readers, if you don't join in you will not go with the crowd—no charge is made to join the contest, simply send 25c. for a year's subscription for yourself or someone else and enclose your list of names with it.

Thousands of new subscriptions are coming to us through clubbing offers in various papers and the advertising which we are doing and the editor wishes to welcome these new faces into his large family of readers, which now numbers 60,000. We desire to increase our list to 100,000 before snow flies again and this is our reason for making the special offer which we do to send the magazine a whole year for only twenty-five cents,—it will cost 50c. just as soon as we reach the 100,000 mark. You had better send us 25c. at once and let us extend your subscription one year from the time to which it is now paid—it is liable to cost you twice as much when your present subscription expires.

Some people do not consider themselves subscribers to a publication if they take it in a "club" through some other paper or a subscription agency. For the benefit of such people we wish to say that the publication or agency making a clubbing offer simply acts as the agent of each publication in the club and when you order such a club you subscribe for each publication in it the same as though you sent your subscription to each publication individually.

A word about our advertisers. We want you to patronize them. It is for your interest. We could not furnish you the excellent publication which we do at so small a cost if it were not for the income from our advertising columns. We intend to admit none but reliable firms to our publication—when we find that an advertiser is not doing as he agrees by our readers we stop his ad at once.

We are anxious to know to what extent our readers patronize our advertisers and are going to offer two prizes this month, to find out. The contest will close on June 20th, and we will give a diamond ring, (not a large one, but genuine) as a first prize and a handsome ring set with three genuine opals (or ruby doublets if preferred) as a second prize. Send us the names of the advertisers in Vick's to whom you have written from Jan. 1, 1904 to June 15, 1904, together with three suggestions for the improvement of Vick's Family Magazine. The one who has answered the largest number of ads will be awarded the diamond ring and the one who gives the best three suggestions will receive the other ring.



MODENE
HARON
FACE
NECK
AND
ARMS
INSTANTLY
REMOVED
WITHOUT
INJURY TO
THE MOST
DELICATE SKIN.

IN COMPOUNDING an incomplete mixture was accidentally spilled on the back of the hand, and on washing afterward it was discovered that the hair was completely removed. We named the new discovery MODENE. It is absolutely harmless, but works sure results. Apply for a few minutes and the hair disappears as if by magic. It Cannot Fail. If the growth be light, one application will remove it; on moles, may require two or more applications, and without slightest injury or unpleasant feeling when applied or even afterward.

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Alice B. Stockham, M. D.

Author of Tokology and

Kerezza.

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Literary Digest: The author of *The Lover's World* is bold, searching, outspoken yet handles her subject with tact. As a medical practitioner Dr. Stockham must have been the recipient of a prodigious number of private and personal confessions.

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your sight is

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reading and sewing without glasses." Mr. Frank Barth,

99 31st St., Chicago: With two boxes of EYELIN recom-

mended by my physician, I cured myself of total blindness

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at your home. We will give, free for advertising purposes, 48 music lessons for beginners or advanced pupils on Piano, Organ, Banjo, Guitar, Cornet, Violin, or Mandolin. (your expense will only be the cost of postage and the music you use, which is small). We teach by mail only and guarantee success. Hundreds write: "Wish I had known of your school before." For booklet, testimonials and FREE tuition contract, address **U. S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Dept. 37, 19 Union Square, New York, N. Y.**

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We will give you absolutely free for only 5¢ of our handsome and exquisitely outdone Jewelry Novelties as follows: These are positively the handsomest and best selling Jewelry Novelties ever put on the market at the small price we ask for them—only 10c each. Everybody you ask will buy two or three novelties as soon as they see them, as the package is well assorted and contains jewelry suitable for everyone. Just send your name and address and we will send you 24 jewelry novelties by first mail postpaid, together with here Premium List with full description of each premium. When sold send us the money you get for them and we will send you any of these life-size presents the very day we receive your remittance to pay you for your trouble. **THIS IS AN HONEST OFFER** and if you are unable to sell the goods we take them back and give you a premium for your loss. You need no money. We trust you with the goods until you sell them. Write now, Don't delay. Earn one of these handsome presents. **DREXEL MFG. CO., Dept. 569 Chicago.**

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FREE This elegant full size Reed Rocker or Fancy Figured Velour Couch will be given free to any lady who will take orders for our Swan Baking Powder and Household Supplies from her friends and neighbors. To every one who gives you an order (on our Plan No. 104) for a can you are to give, free of charge, a beautiful American Present Glass Fruit Bowl, Aztec Design. No trouble to take orders this way. No money required in advance, and we pay the freight. Simply send your name and address and we will send you our plans, order blank, etc. We will allow you time to deliver the Baking Powder and collect the money before paying us. You run no risk, as we pay the freight and will trust you with the Baking Powder, Rocker, etc. (I know this Company to be thoroughly reliable—Editor.)
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SPECIALS: To show you our good faith, our absolute reliability, and the merit of our goods, we make this special proposition to you: Send us your name and address, and we will send you twelve packages of assorted remedies postpaid; all packages at 25 cents each and return **ONLY \$1.50** of the \$3 collected, the other \$1.50 of OUR money you keep until you actually get the music box. Positively no more work or other condition.

Your selection from three hundred of all the latest waltzes, two-steps, classical music, and sacred melodies. We furnish Free two tunes with each box. No knowledge of music required in order to enjoy the music, which is by far sweeter than that of an organ or piano. Size, 13 inches long, 4 inches wide, and 8 inches high, packed, and addressed to you free of charge. Music boxes are in either mahogany, ebony, or rosewood finish, as you may select, with silver mountings.

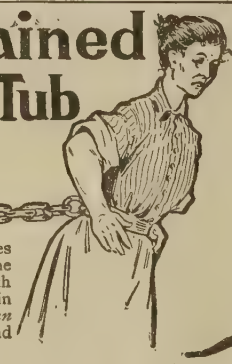
OUR GUARANTEE: As we are the only people who have contracted for these music boxes, they cannot be duplicated anywhere for many times the cost to you. So do not pay \$25 for a music box when you can get one Free. It is only by getting vast quantities of them and making special machines to get them out that we can afford to do this, and also in connection with our musical show rooms, or write Eastern Drug Association, 17 Warren St., Dept. V. F. N. Y. City.



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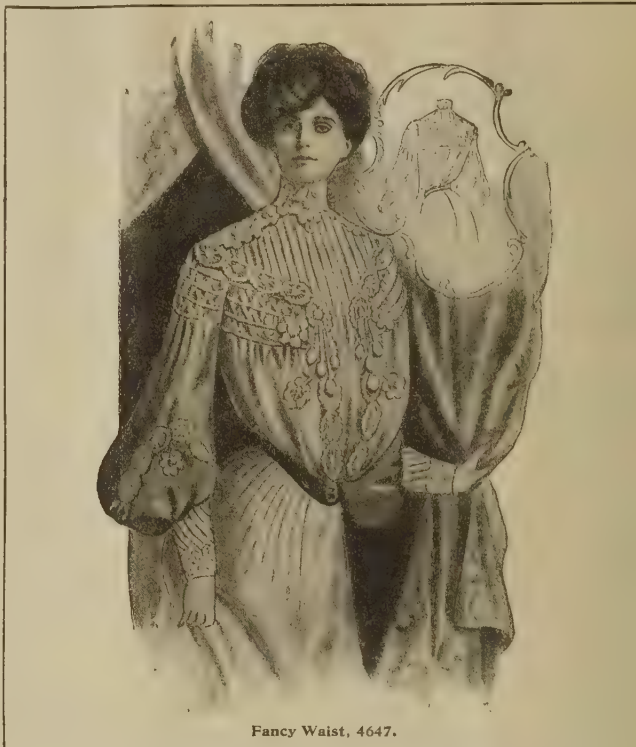
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Home Dressmaking HINTS BY MAY MANTON.



Fancy Waist, 4647.

CREPE DE CHINE AND LACE Fancy Waist, 4647

Fancy waists that combine shirrings and fine tucks are among the season's favorites and are exceedingly attractive in the pretty soft silks and crepes of fashion. This one combines palest green crepe de Chine with the yoke and front of white chiffon and trimming of cream lace applique and is more than commonly effective. The shirrings in waist and sleeves made on continuous lines mean the broad effect that is necessary to style and the garniture over the shoulders gives the graceful drooping line.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is $3\frac{3}{4}$ yards 21, 3 yards 27 or 19 yards 44 inches wide, with $\frac{1}{4}$ yards 21 inches wide for yoke and front, $\frac{1}{2}$ yard of all-over lace and $\frac{1}{4}$ yards of lace to trim as illustrated.

The pattern 4647 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust measure.



A HANDSOME WAIST Tucked Blouse, 4630

Handsome and elaborate waists make a marked feature of the season and are used alike for the costume and the odd blouse. This one is made of pale blue crepe de Chine, with a fancy yoke of lace and flat puffings of the material, and is both novel and smart.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is $3\frac{3}{4}$ yards 21, $3\frac{1}{2}$ yards 27 or $2\frac{1}{2}$ yards 44 inches wide.

The pattern 4630 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust measure.



FOR LITTLE GIRLS Child's Russian One Piece Dress, 4645

Russian dresses or frocks that are made with waists and skirts in one are among the most fashionable shown for little girls and are exceedingly attractive as well as useful. This one is made of blue chambray trimmed with bands of embroidery, but all the simple materials of the season are equally appropriate.

The quantity of material required for the medium size (8 years) is $3\frac{3}{4}$ yards 27, 3 yards 32 or 2 yards 44 inches wide.

The pattern 4645 is cut in sizes for girls of 4, 6, 8 and 10 years of age.



House Jacket, 4643.

FOR MORNING WEAR. House Jacket, 4643

Pretty and tasteful house jackets are essential to warm weather comfort and are charming both for the home breakfast and the hours spent in one's own room. This one is made of flowered batiste trimmed with bands and frills of embroidery and is peculiarly dainty and attractive. The fronts are loose and full but the back is fitted, so avoiding any sense of undress.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 4 yards 21, 3½ yards 27 or 2 yards 44 inches wide.

The pattern 4643 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inch bust measure.



A PRETTY GIRLISH WAIST Misses' Tucked Waist, 4606

Young girls are always charming dressed in waists that give a broad effect at the shoulders and this season all such are unusually fashionable. The very pretty waist illustrated is made of natural colored batiste with trimming of embroidery and includes a bertha of a novel sort but can be used plain when preferred. The narrow tucks are arranged to give a yoke effect at the front but extend for the full length at the back.

The quantity of material required for the medium size (14 years), is 4 yards 21, 3½ yards 27 or 2½ yards 44 inches wide.

The pattern 4606 is cut in sizes for misses of 12, 14 and 16 years of age.



A DAINTY SUMMER WAIST Shirred Waist, 4592

Nothing is prettier for summer wear than muslin shirred and tucked. This very charming waist is made of the material in silk and cotton and is trimmed with lace applique, the yoke being made of all-over tucking and unlined. The garniture, which gives a bertha effect, is especially noteworthy as it droops over the shoulders and gives the broad line, at the same time that it outlines the yoke effectively. At the waist is a soft shirred belt of mesaline satin.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 4½ yards 21, 3½ yards 27 or 2½ yards 44 inches wide, with ¾ yards of tucking for yoke, ¼ yards of all-over lace and ¾ yards of satin for belt.

The pattern 4592 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust measure.

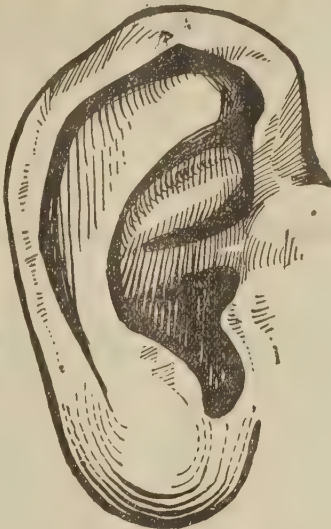
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For a short time we will mail these patterns to any address for only 10 cents each or three for 25 cents. The regular retail prices range from 25 to 40 cents. The patterns are all of the latest New York modes and are unequalled for style, accuracy of fit, simplicity and economy. With each is given full descriptions and directions—quantity of material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by.

We can also furnish any of the patterns illustrated in the last five issues of Vick's Family Magazine. VICK PUBLISHING CO., Rochester, N. Y.

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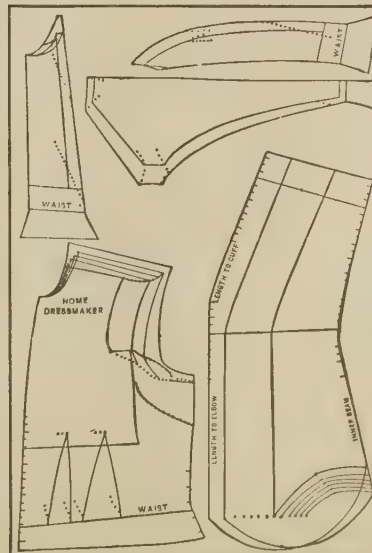
Answer the above questions, yes or no, and write your name and address plainly on the dotted lines. Cut out and send to Dr. Sproule, B.

A., Deafness Specialist, (Graduate Dublin University, formerly Surgeon British Royal Naval Service) 16 Doane St., Boston. He will give you valuable advice free.

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FRUIT NOTES

By Professor H. E. VanDeman

Suggestions for May.

The strawberry season is already at hand in the South and soon will be at the North. Those who have many berries to pick would do well to have the pickers engaged early. Those who have but few, perhaps enough for family use, and will do their own picking should be sure to let the berries ripen well. For market this can rarely be done.

Watch the grafts that were set and keep the stumps sprouted. It sometimes happens that the stump sprouts get a considerable start before they are discovered and rubbed or cut off and the grafts are robbed in some degree. I have seen them nearly ruined in this way by a little thoughtless inattention.

The best kind of hoe that I have ever used in a garden or about trees or plants of almost any kind is one with a number of small teeth. A common potato hook is very good but I do not like one that is very heavy. One can scratch about the plants and often straddle them with such an implement, doing them lots of good and no harm. It is a great thing with which to kill little weeds but is not good for big ones. By a deft hand and laying it on the side occasionally, some weeds can be got out or buried that a blade hoe could not do better. I never use a blade hoe except in the rarest cases, and usually where there has been neglect or press of work that has allowed the weeds to get the start of me. The time to kill a weed is just as it comes out of the ground, or before that time. There is nothing like a fork hoe for such work, where the loose hoe has not or cannot do it. Get one and try it faithfully.

Now that the spring planting is over, it is not well to think that everything, or in fact anything will grow without further attention. No matter how good the trees or plants may be that have been set, or how good the work was done it is necessary to keep the soil loose about them. The mistake is often made of allowing the ground to become hard before anything is done to prevent it. When it is once hard it is far more difficult and costly to get it loosened than it would have been to have kept it so from the start. Therefore, set the cultivators to work early and keep them going frequently enough to prevent any hardening of the top of the soil. Do this after every rain, as soon as the soil will bear working, and also at other times. The soil will settle and become solid enough for the water to find its way through it to the surface, where it will be evaporated and lost, even when it seems quite loose on top. It therefore pays to stir and finely pulverize a soil that may appear not to need it.

About Spraying.

Somehow some people get very strange and erroneous notions about spraying. They think that if they spray their trees or plants with some sort of a mixture, and at almost any time when it comes handy, it is all right and they have done their duty.

Spraying is like hunting, except that it is a much more difficult and complicated art. When we get after our insect and fungus enemies we have game that is much more wary and hard to kill. We often have to use the microscope to find or to be sure of just what we have to deal with. There are a thousand kinds to kill, if not more, and they hide in all sorts of places and ways and what is effectual for one may not be for another.

There are two general facts that we may be quite sure about. That insects are to be killed by poisoning or smothering them and that the fungus diseases are killed by chemical action. Again, there are insects that may be killed by eating the poison that we can spray onto their food, while others that live by sucking the juices of plants through tiny tubes that they insert into them cannot be destroyed in this way and must be smothered or in some way killed from the outside. Others are so nearly proof against all poisons that we must trap them or catch them by hand and kill them as the Irishman did his flea. In the latter case it is catching before killing.

For insects that eat foliage it is in nearly all cases possible to apply some preparation of arsenic that will kill them. Whatever the preparation may be this fatal drug is usually the active agent or effective part. Paris green has long been used and with good effect in most cases, but fruit growers and others have more recently learned that for many things preparations of white arsenic are much cheaper, more effective and less liable to injure the foliage. Arsenate of lead, which is called Disparine, and possibly, by some other names, is also a better form of arsenic. It clings to the foliage better and is less injurious to it. It would be well for everyone who has any need of arsenical sprays to carefully study out these matters and act accordingly.

Insects that live by sucking their food often yield to applications of kerosene, crude petroleum or the lime-sulphur-salt mixture. They have to be coated with something that will smother them or reach their vital parts in some way from the outside. The scale insects are of this class, and they have the additional protection of their scales, which are really little tents under which they live. Some of them can only be killed when they are young and have to come out from under their mother's tents and start new ones of their own. Then they are exposed and subject to the darts of our warfare against them.

Sulphate of copper has been found to be the basis of about all remedies for fungus diseases. The old Bordeaux mixture, or the newer ones, in which there is more lime than was before used, are almost the only means of any value for the desired purposes. There are very few fungus troubles of any kind that will not yield to thorough treatment with this remedy.

It matters much as to when and how the work is done in all these cases. Suppose we went out to hunt squirrels in the night. How many would we get? None. We would not even see one. Or, suppose we went after deer with bird shot in our cartridges. Again, suppose we did not point our guns at the game when we fired, or that we did not shoot again after missing. Now all these mistakes are made by the insect and fungus hunters. They sometimes use insecticides where fungicides were needed, and the reverse. They do not make the preparations properly, or they fail to apply them at the right times. Some spray once and quit. It is a sort of hit or miss game, and it is generally a miss when they act unintelligently or without plenty of patience and perseverance. Get the books and bulletins on these subjects and study them and follow their directions carefully and there will be little cause for complaint, and little damage from the enemies.

Pineapple Growing.

There are many who have never seen the pineapple growing and know little or nothing of its habits and the way it is grown. Some doubtless think the fruit grows on a tree, which is a great mistake.

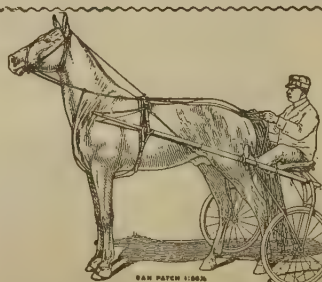
The pineapple is closely allied to the "air plants," which are of great variety and are found in abundance in the tropics. The plant has many long, narrow and sharp pointed leaves, and in most varieties with edges much like a well sharpened saw. They all grow from a central bud and without a stem while the plant is young, sitting upon the ground, as it were. When they attain fruiting age a flower stem rises from the center of the leaf cluster and the miniature pineapple is gradually raised upon its top as it grows, attaining a height of from one and a half to three feet. Each cell of the fruit as we see it in the markets comes from a small, separate flower of a purplish color.

The plants are grown from small sets or suckers that are taken from the large ones. They are set in squares that are usually about twenty to twenty-four inches apart, with narrow alleys between them at convenient intervals to allow those gathering the fruit to get within reach of it without serious trouble, for the plants when well grown form a mass of sharp, saw edged leaves that comes near being dangerous to penetrate. It is only necessary to cultivate the plants the first year, and this is always done with a hoe. After the field is once well established it will bear for from three to five or more years.

The land is very sandy and also often very rocky on which the pineapple flourishes best, and is usually very poor, which makes heavy manuring necessary. This is always done with commercial fertilizers, containing large proportions of nitrogen.

There are many varieties, of which the Red Spanish is by far the most common and also the most easily grown. It is very good in quality when well grown and ripened on the plant. The Golden Queen is a very good one, but does not meet the requirements of the grower or the salesman. Porto Rico is very large and of fair flavor, but is grown very little because of the large size and poor shipping quality of the fruit. Smooth Cayenne is also quite large and of good quality but it does not do well in the open field. It is usually grown under lath sheds, as are some of all others in some cases.

Shedding pineapples is quite costly but the fruit is of finer quality, larger size; and more difficult to ship without injury than in open field culture.



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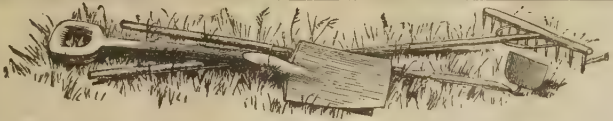
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In The Garden



CONDUCTED BY JOHN ELLIOTT MORSE

May Song.

"To cover the hilltop, mead and vale
With fairest of verdure and flowers
I come, the last of a sister band
To greet you in forest bowers;
Then weave a crown of a thousand gems
And deck it with every hue
To adorn the brow of your fair May Queen
So beautiful, good and true."

Poor little May Queen! her nose looks decidedly blue as though April breezes had been unpleasantly familiar with her highness. We of the North have been gardening under all sorts of difficulties sowing seed with one's mittens on is slow work, and shivering over the hot-beds cools our ardor for gardening, but all work is hard and disagreeable sometimes, and we know it will be pleasant by and by. The cold, backward weather is heaping up wrath to come, for so much work is coming in a heap as soon as weather conditions admit of doing it.

We are trying to anticipate this as much as possible by having seeds, tools, and all garden requisites ready for immediate action when the good time comes.

Looking over any of the catalogues from first class seed houses one can but wonder at the array of insecticides, fungicides and implements for spraying and dusting; truly their name is legion, but the name of the enemies to the gardener's peace of mind or repose of body is legion too, so we lay in a goodly store of ammunition to fight the "vermin."

Dry Bordeaux Mixture.

The making of Bordeaux mixture has ever been a bug-bear to nine out of ten gardeners, so much so that they have usually gone without the benefits derived from its use. Now that it can be bought ready mixed in the dry form to be dusted, or sprayed, we hope all our family, little and big, will give their gardens the chance to show what they can do when protected from ravages of fungi and insects. For the latter we can buy the Bordeaux and Paris green compound. For small gardens or conservatories a Double Cone powder bellows is just the thing, can be held in any direction, does not clog up and is moderate in price.

Today and Other Days.

Today—(April 15) the snow is about six inches deep, and frost is still King in our garden.

"Every pine, and fir, and hemlock
Wears ermine too dear for an earl;
And the poorest twig on the elm tree
Is ridged inch-deep with pearl."

Notwithstanding these drawbacks the "Head Push" of the garden finds plenty to busy himself with; the hot beds require extra attention in the shape of shutters and mats; the little plants are pretty dry but we shall risk them another day, for too much water while covered so closely may start the dreaded "damping off."

Some of the seed potatoes which are sprouting in shallow boxes of sand are developing sturdy green shoots which will be ready to jump almost as soon as covered in the trenches, these are sprinkled quite liberally and moved to a warmer room to prevent chilling. A quart of Peep o' Day sweet corn is put to sprout, for early and good as this variety is much time and loss of seed is saved by sprouting the seed. Large sheet iron pans have about an inch of sand sprinkled in the bottom, over this is spread a piece of cheese cloth, a layer of corn, half an inch in depth is placed on the cloth and covered with another piece of cloth, somewhat larger than top of pan; over this comes a sand blanket an inch thick; the contents of the pan are generously watered with water at blood-heat and placed where they will

keep warm; in a very few days the germs will have started and we shall feel safe to plant as soon as the ground can be fitted, choosing a sunny slope which gives us extra early garden truck from year to year. Referring to some of my old diaries I find that at this date I have been cultivating and wheel-hoeing my garden, instead of putting around with a garden in boxes and pans. Have you ever noticed that if we put forth extra effort in fitting our ground, sprouting our seed and hardening off our plants, we reap our harvest nearly, or quite as early, as when we have an "early" spring and go about our work with less care? "The early bird catches the worm," not so much because the worm is early, as because the bird is on time.

Canned or Potted Tomato Plants.

(Fifth prize in Garden Contest.)

The writer has, by the help of empty cans, been enabled to get tomatoes on the market early enough to obtain forty cents per dozen for them. Through the fall and winter we save up all the tin cans we come across, unsolder the cut end and punch a hole in the bottom for drainage.

Next prepare some rich soil; sand, well rotted barnyard manure and leaf mould, equal parts, gives best results. If you have hot beds or sash plant a good variety of tomato seeds in drills about four inches apart, scatter the seed quite thick in the drill.

If you have no hot bed, prepare a few flats or shallow boxes, about four inches deep, a soap box will make about three; bore a few small holes in bottom for drainage, and fill within an inch of top with soil; plant seed thickly on surface and cover lightly with sand or light soil and keep watered regularly so soil will not dry out. Plant the seed eight or ten weeks before it will be safe to set plants in open ground. Keep the boxes in sunny window; when the plants put out the rough leaf or are about two inches high, fill your cans with the rich soil within an inch of top; with a small paddle or knife take up the plants, selecting the thriftiest, and set one in the center of each can. Set all the cans close together where they will be partially shaded for a day or two, water, and leave undisturbed until they start to grow, then give all the sunshine and air possible. In this way the plants are strong and hardy and suffer no shock when transferred to open ground. I have had plants hardy enough to stand light frosts, in open ground, unprotected.

As soon as the season is far enough advanced to be safe, prepare ground thoroughly, mark out in rows, four feet apart for dwarf or tree varieties and six feet apart for tall-growing kinds; distribute the potted plants along the rows where they are to be planted. Have a bucket of water and dipper, pour enough in the can to moisten dirt so it will slip out easily, make a hole with garden trowel, or another can same size as the one containing plant, pour some water in this hole, then turn canned plant upside down with plant hanging down between fingers, tap the can on bottom, and the plant with ball of earth about roots will slip out unbroken; place this in the hole prepared for it, draw loose soil in about the plant pressing it down lightly about the plant roots but leaving surface loose to check evaporation. Stick the empty can in ground near plant, and if you fear frost slip it over plant until cold spell is over. I also plant squash, cucumber, and other seed in cans and set out later; this plan has been worth considerable to me, as I plant for the market. One can use pots or boxes if they wish, but cans cost nothing, except a little trouble. This is not theory but something I practice

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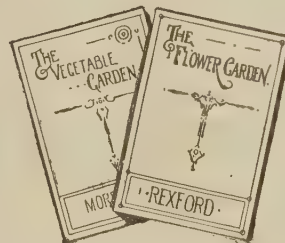
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Rhubarb Queries.

"I notice in March number of the Family Magazine, Rhubarb raising in dark quarters. Would inquire if it could be done in dark cellar under house? If plants must be frozen before put in? Is artificial heat needed in such cases? Are the plants to be reset in the ground in the spring? Probably the same plants cannot be used the following winter. How many plants would be needed to supply an ordinary family through winter? How prepared for market, and what prices could be obtained?"

Answer—If M. J. T., will refer to March number of Vick's, page sixteen, she will see illustration of a rhubarb bed, in our own house cellar. Ten roots I think was the exact number put in a corner of cellar; an old carpet was tacked to the sleepers of the floor above, and hung to the cellar bottom, this served to shut out light, and retained the heat from lamp and lantern; the chimneys of which were smoked as black as possible, to prevent the light injuring the rhubarb. Notice that the lamp chimney is not so black as lantern, and nearly every stalk stretches toward it, trying to get to the light. This causes the stalks to grow crooked and sometimes they tangle so badly as to break all to pieces in pulling. If grown where it is perfectly dark the stalks will be straight and of finer color. For best results plants must be frozen before putting in cellar. Dig them up before ground freezes leaving as much soil on roots as possible, leave them right in hole where they were dug until after freezing, then set closely together on cellar bottom. In furnace heated cellar, no other heat is necessary, but remember no vegetation can grow without warmth or heat; one large or two small lamps will do for a small bed. A kerosene stove (heater) will furnish heat enough to force a large cellar full of roots. The roots should be removed from cellar when the stalks begin to run out or grow spindling; they can be stored in some shed or other place secure from rain or snow, (frost will not hurt them). When ground can be worked in spring, thoroughly manure and prepare for resetting the roots. With a sharp spade cut each clump into four pieces, set out and give good culture, picking none of the stalks (except seed stalks which should be pulled as soon as blossom starts) the first season. Do not attempt to force these roots until they have had at least two years growth, three would be better. Number of roots for an ordinary family would vary. We are fond of forced rhubarb and can use a good deal, yet the bed illustrated furnished all we cared for and quite a bit to sell and give away. Much, too, depends upon the size and vigor of roots, the larger and stronger they are the greater they yield. We usually start heat at sixty degrees and if in a hurry run it to seventy or eighty. After the edge of our appetite is wore off we withhold heat for a while, this stops growth, then by starting heat again we grow another crop—in this way prolonging the season until the outdoor crop comes on.

To prepare for market we gather, and bunch same as the out door crop, tying three stalks together at lower end, then tying twelve of these small bunches into a large bundle, tying at both top and bottom; see illustration of rhubarb on display in a commission house, page fifteen, Vick's Magazine, March number. If the product has to be shipped, precautions must be taken against freezing. Each bundle is wrapped in newspaper and the bundles put in tight, paper lined boxes or barrels which are usually shipped by express. For nearby markets, put in box and cover with blanket. Prices for forced products of any kind run high and large growers make much more money from their dark-grown rhubarb than from the same crop grown in open ground. The work comes too at a season when the ordinary gardener has little to do and little money coming in.

Our advice to all our readers is to plan now to force at least enough for home use, another winter. Give your roots good cultivation and plenty of fertilizer through the summer, keep

down all seed stalks and the plants will be vigorous enough to give a good yield of the forced product.

Sea Kale.

Sea Kale may be forced in the dark in much the same way as rhubarb, only the roots are not frozen. Sow seed and care for the crop the same as beets. Late in fall pull up the roots and set them in boxes of sand, give heat and some moisture and stalks will grow which may be pulled off same as rhubarb. The stalks are washed and cooked same as asparagus.

Asparagus for the Family.

The idea seems to prevail that the growing of asparagus for family use is a complicated matter attended by success for but a very few. To the writer this appears strange when in his own exper-

ience he has found the very reverse to be the case. Doubtless certain old and laborious methods which are even to the present time described in the "farmer's corner" of certain publications are responsible for this misconception of the case.

The writer once had a neighbor who was very fond of the succulent shoots of this delicious vegetable, and who had finally determined to have an asparagus bed of his own. He went to work in earnest with all the enthusiasm of early-spring gardening, dug a ditch several feet wide and almost deep enough to hide himself as he labored at his task. Into the bottom of this he threw manure, old shoes, bones, tin cans and whatever other refuse his and the neighboring back-lots could afford, following the "garden notes" of his church paper;—so some good came of his misdirected efforts after all. On the rubbish he put

a foot or so of rich soil, and on this his asparagus roots, and on the roots about eighteen inches of earth. Then his only regret was that he must wait a season or two, according to the paper, before he could dare to cut the succulent shoots, but he was confident of his reward in due time; other regrets came afterward. Kindly expostulation on our part availed nothing, for he had read the method in a paper, and a church paper at that!

Of course our friend never cut any "grass" of the kind he fondly hoped, from that bed. A little thought must convince anyone that a lot of loose manure and refuse under the roots would cause them to dry out completely and die during the first summer even if the stalks should succeed in pushing their way through all that burial of earth. Whoever is originally responsible for the pernicious idea so prevalent among

(Continued on page twenty-one.)

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Poultry Department

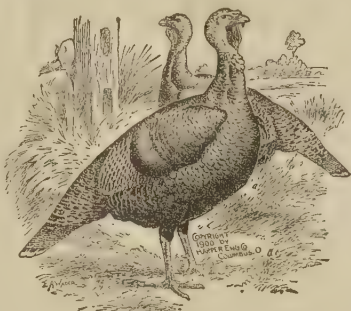
CONDUCTED BY VINCENT M. COUCH.

Those who have suggestions to make or questions to ask are invited to write direct to Mr. Couch at his home, Lansdowne, Pa. Enclose a stamp if you desire a reply.—Ed.

Raising Turkeys.

The poultry raiser who has the facilities and is inclined to give some special attention to turkey raising is going to make some money. From all indications and reports in this part of the country it would appear that raising turkeys was going back instead of ahead. Turkeys are especially adapted to the farm, where they can have a long range to forage over. They may be grown on a small plan, but only a few of them with any success. Low, flat lands that are cold and wet are not suitable for turkeys, hilly or rolling sandy ground is the kind.

The greatest drawback in turkey raising I have found to be in getting the young started. When quite young they are delicate and need to be kept dry and comfortable. In the first place the



BRONZE TURKEYS.

breeding stock should be of the right kind. Old birds if in proper condition are the best for breeding purposes, and they may be used to breed from for six or eight years and even longer. Turkeys are not apt to be very prolific, sixteen to twenty eggs are about as many as most of them lay during the season. Some poultrymen have tried hatching and brooding the poults with common hens, but the best results are had when the turkey hens are used. The young turkeys do not require feed any younger than chickens, thirty-six hours old is soon enough, but the old birds must be fed. If the weather is warm and the nest when hatched is located where a pen can be suitably built around it, the brood may be left there for several days. But if not in a good place it is better to remove them at once to a coop having a board floor. After ten days, they may be allowed to run outside the pen on pleasant days and when they are six weeks old they may be allowed to range freely. It is a good idea to have a fair sized yard or lot, say one quarter of an acre fenced in, with fence six feet high. This will be of sufficient height to hold them until quite well grown. Have this yard on high, dry ground with a suitable building for shelter, and I would bring the young turkeys home at night and turn them in this yard. Then if cold or wet in the morning you can hold them. Even while quite young this yard will answer to keep them in, and by cutting off the long feathers of the wings and tail of the old hen turkey you can confine them in the pen without a coop after a few days old. By making the fence tight with boards two feet up from bottom, then wire netting four or six feet wide on top of this will be an improvement. Turkeys usually have a certain course that they go over each day and if you drive them the way each morning that you want them to go they will soon form the habit and there will be less trouble afterwards.

In feeding I would suggest the following rations beginning after a day and a half old, and feed about four times daily, light stale bread softened in sweet milk and squeezed dry, mixed with eggs, boiled hard. Make a variety after a day or two by changing to bread and cottage cheese, eggs and oat flake; and season this with a little salt and pepper. When

the poults are a week or ten days old, commence to feed a small quantity of cracked wheat and corn, some Kaffir corn or millet with the cooked feed, and give only three feeds a day, and never any more than they will clean up. The white bread and eggs may be gradually dropped off after ten days old, feeding them more grain and bread made from cheap flour, using one half white flour to equal parts shorts and bran and a couple of handfuls corn meal, bake dry and let stand a day at least before feeding. This bread may be given to good advantage until six weeks old and curdled milk also, and even until ten weeks old I would give bread and milk once a day. By this time they should be out on full range and able to eat any kind of grain. In fattening, good results may be had by using two parts whole corn, two parts cracked corn, one part oats and one part Kaffir corn. In the management and feeding of turkeys, the same as with other kinds of poultry, different systems may be adopted with equally good results.

Take Good Care of the Chickens all the Way Through. Complaints About Poor Hatches.

The way of a great many who raise chickens, is to give them good care on the start and no care at all on the finish. They are careful in setting hens or starting incubators, protect them from storms, feed them on the best food, and make them comfortable in every way possible, but as they get a little size and the weather becomes warm, the care of the chickens is dropped for other work. To be sure after a chicken has reached the age of six or eight weeks it don't require the care that it did when younger, for if it has grown up right and the weather is dry and moderately warm it will stand a good deal of abuse, but that don't mean that it should be neglected entirely. If one gets in the habit of neglecting them, and bad weather or some other drawback overtakes them, all efforts spent in trying to rear them in the spring may be lost. After a chick reaches the age of two months it takes a good deal of food, and its eating capacity from this time on is increasing. The hot sun is hard on chicks of all ages and they need protection from it. Lice increase with heat and make it necessary to look more carefully after these insects now than any other time of year. It is wrong to allow a flock of half grown birds to become infested with these pests until all the life has been taken out of them. Then the water supply is an important thing now. Since the weather has become hot it is more difficult to get pure fresh water, and then the chickens require a good deal more now than a while ago. Their increased weight and rapid growth demand bone and muscle producing food. Fresh ground bone and meat, wheat and bran will meet this requirement. Then there is a large growth of feathers coming on, linseed meal as well as green bone and meat will assist in this growth. And last but not least comes the strolling little animals, skunks, mink, weasels, rats, foxes, and sometimes house cats. For the safe protection of the chicks from these night marauders require that one be constantly prepared for them. An enemy-proof coop is the only thing, but don't make the mistake of closing the chickens in too tight. Have plenty of screens or fine wire netting around to give fresh air on hot nights.

At this time of the year there is likely to be more or less controversy going on about the hatches. Thirteen eggs are considered a sitting, but some people are not satisfied unless the whole number of eggs hatch, and even then they will kick if there is more than one rooster and each and every bird must come up to their expectations as to size and color. If I buy a sitting of thirteen eggs and get seven lively chicks out of them I am

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If the chicks are not all hatched out on twenty-first day, how long after that should we wait? With reasonably and uniformly fresh eggs and correct application of heat, nearly all chicks of any account, should get out of the shell on the night of the twentieth day. Eggs in an incubator will usually hatch from six to twelve hours sooner than those under a hen, the heat being constant in the machine, gains on the hen, while she is off the nest.

A reader asks for information as to the opportunities for poultry raising in California, and most desirable locations there. Will some of our far western readers give us light on the subject?

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Farm Notes.

The Horse is King.

It is not to be doubted that the automobile is growing in favor. Last year's record of the growth of the machine proves that it is becoming a factor as a machine for motive purposes. We may expect to see still further progress of the horseless vehicle during the next year, and not until the fancy of the fad dies out will it cease to make the rapid strides that it made during the past year and is likely to make possibly during the next few years. But what of this? The advance of the auto was supposed to clean up the horse, making him a thing of memory only, and this in a very short time. It will not be so, or else figures on the horse's progress are not to be accepted. Last October the statistics on the number of horses in the United States on January 1, 1903, were published and given to those most directly interested, the horseshoers.

The statement of the national statistician at Washington may be relied on as the most authentic that can be compiled, and it was these which we published. There were in the United States on the date mentioned, 16,557,373 horses, valued at \$1,030,705,959. The increase in number over the previous year of 1902 was just 26,149. Mark it well. Now comes the same Washington authority—and he knows, if anybody does—with his report of January 1, 1904, and here are the figures which he gives of the number of horses in the country on the latter date.

Total number of horses January 1, 1904, 16,736,059. The difference in number between 1903 and 1904 is just 178,686, or an increase over the corresponding period of the previous year of 152,537 horses. Of values, a proportionate increase is seen, there being reported \$1,126,940,298 worth of horseflesh in the country January 1 last. With the exception of 1901, when there were but 8,664 more horses in the country than there are now, the number is greater at the present time than was ever before reported, while in point of value the country is richer in horseflesh today by \$106,235,339 than it ever was before. Facts are stubborn things. The report above adduced is self-sufficient in showing that with the progress of the times the horse is more than holding his own, and the presentation should quell any fears of lovers of "the king" respecting his future, or that of things which bear relation to him.—*The Horseshoers' Journal.*

Dairying and Soil Fertility.

Professor Curtiss of the Iowa College of Agriculture told the dairymen of Iowa at their annual meeting why dairying maintains the fertility of the soil, and pointed out the advantages of cows. "In selling \$1,000 worth of wheat from an Iowa farm at present prices," said Professor Curtiss, "we sell with it about \$350 worth of fertility. In selling \$1,000 worth of corn we sell about \$250 worth of fertility—or constituents which would cost the farmer this amount if he were obliged to buy commercial fertilizers to maintain the fertility of the farm. But we can convert \$1,000 worth of corn into beef, pork or mutton and sell it in that form and not remove over \$25 worth of fertility from the farm, or we can convert \$1,000 worth of feed into butter and not remove a single dollar's worth of fertility with it.

"Butter is almost wholly pure fat or carbon, and it adds nothing to the value or productive capacity of the soil. We probably shall be obliged to pay out much money for commercial fertilizers in Iowa, if we farm intelligently, but we have already learned that we cannot grow wheat indefinitely or constantly draw upon even a bountiful store of plant food without diminished returns. The fact that this lesson has been recognized is the main safeguard and the strongest feature of Iowa agriculture. "

"We not only produce an average of a million dollars' worth of agricultural products for every day of the year, but

we know enough to feed over one-fourth of a million dollars' worth of produce on the farms every day. No other state in the Union approaches this amount, and there are only five other states that feed half as much. By this means Iowa not only leads in agricultural products, but conserves her resources."

Commercial Fertilizers Without Manure.

The annual controversy is going on over the relative values of commercial fertilizers and stable manures, but the farmer who uses both feels that there is no need for him to argue the matter, having learned that when he has filled his soil with humus by the use of stable manure and with nitrogen by growing some of the legumes, then he is able to use commercial fertilizers profitably. Years ago when there was more protests than now against commercial fertilizers, farmers generally considered it extravagant to use fertilizers and stable manures as well. As a result the constant and exclusive use of the commercial fertilizers used up the vegetable matter in the soil and crops began to fall off. To those who are skeptical regarding this manner of using commercial fertilizers, in connection with stable manures, the best advice that can be given is to select a small field and try the plan. Use any crop desired and give the field the best possible culture. The results will show if the combination was profitable. All farmers know that at times some one plant food becomes exhausted in a certain soil while it remains fairly rich in the other two essential plant foods; in such cases the remedy is obviously to use a fertilizer containing the desired food in the greatest proportion of the mixture or apply it by itself if necessary. It is the old story of ascertaining what the soil needs and then supplying it.

Honey Always in the Kitchen Pantry.

When Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Hagen, of Denver, Colo., wish to have fresh honey on their table they simply turn on the electric light in their pantry, mount a stepladder and from inside a small cupboard cut away great chunks of fresh comb, filled with veritable nectar, so fresh and fine flavored is it. Very often the honey they cut away has been made that day by the thousands of bees swarming constantly in the little cupboard.

Mr. Hagen is one of the pioneer beekeepers of the state. He began the bee industry in the Arkansas Valley in the early nineties. He had last year, one hundred colonies and marketed nearly four thousand pounds of honey. In the meantime he built several pretty residences in the vicinity, among them his own home.

He conceived the idea of having fresh honey constantly within reach. So, at the end of the pantry, on a level with the top shelves, he made a cupboard, with a door large enough for him to reach in his head and shoulders. There, in he placed the foundations of two hives with some brooding wax. He did not use any wax for the honey cells, preferring to have the bees build their honey combs as they should wish. Two colonies of bees were installed in the cupboard and two narrow apertures were bored in the wall to permit the bees to go in and out at will.

In the cupboard at this time there is at least 150 pounds of the delicious product. An artistic arrangement of the combs has resulted from the indulgence of their taste in architecture. Usually bees begin at the top and build down, but these bees have worked up, and in two corners of the cupboard rise snowy piles of wax.

The house with the bee-hive cupboard has attracted much attention from persons interested in bees. During a horticultural convention recently, the visitors to the Hagen home were many, and scarcely a day passes that someone does not call and ask permission to climb up the little ladder and inspect the bees and their work.—*Colman's Rural World.*

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In the Garden.

(Continued from page sixteen)

the inexperienced that manure, bones, old leather, and even tin cans are a good diet for the roots of grapes, asparagus and even young trees, has a long reckoning of plant murders to account for. The roots of all plants should be set in good earth well packed about them, and the only place where the earth may be kept loose is at the surface.

Asparagus is no exception. I know of no plant which is so easily established and which requires less subsequent attention than this delicious vegetable, and two or three dozen roots after the second year will afford an ample supply for almost any family. They may be set almost anywhere in the garden where they will get the sun, and after the succulent shoots have served the table in the spring the graceful, plumose stalks may continue as a screen to a back fence, or as a hedge-line, or as ornamental clumps about corners and angles.

Year-old plants may be purchased; or better, an ounce of seed of a first class variety such as Vick's Mammoth, or Columbian Mammoth White, may be sown in drills a foot apart in a fertile part of the garden in early spring. When the plants are up, thin them to three inches and give them continuous cultivation during the season of growth. After frost, cut the tops off close to the ground and cover the crowns with several inches of earth or compost. As soon as the earth works well in spring prepare a place in a sunny part of the garden or wherever the plants may be wanted for ornament or other purpose, by thorough spading to a foot or fifteen inches in depth. Some well rotted manure or compost may be spaded in, but nothing else. Indeed it is best to add nothing if the soil is reasonably porous from previous cultivation of other crops. The soil above the crowns cannot be too loose and porous, but beneath them a reasonable degree of compactness is imperative if good results are to be expected.

Having prepared the ground where the permanent bed is to be located, spade up the seedling plants, taking care to injure the cord-like roots as little as may be. Select only the strongest and best and transfer these to the permanent bed, placing them in trenches six inches deep at intervals of eighteen inches each way if only two or three rows are set. Such a bed twenty-five feet long will be ample for almost any family. Spread the roots well, compact the earth firmly about them, cover them to the depth of four inches with loose earth, and finally rake the surface smooth.

After every rain as soon as the soil will stir mellow rake over the surface or stir with the small toothed cultivator. This will prevent the appearance of weeds. After the shoots are up, continue the stirring among them once or twice a week until the plants are too tall to permit of this, when they will shade the ground and so prevent the growth of weeds. Salt is frequently recommended. You may add this or not, as you please, but do not use it "to keep the weeds down," as is so often suggested. That is a lazy man's notion, and like all such ideas it is "no good." The salt may benefit the asparagus, but I doubt it. I know stirring the surface soil does; so keep your rake busy, and you will have no weeds to "keep down."

The second spring you may cut the shoots as long as they appear of good size, but while you do cut, take everything. It is a mistake to leave any of the stems growing until you are ready to give up the whole bed to the summer's growth. When that time comes, go over the whole bed with a sharp hoe and cut off everything, and stir the soil thoroughly, being careful not to cut into the crowns. Then leave the bed of plants to grow, afterwards stirring only among the plants until they are large enough to shade the ground. Should the bed get weedy during the cutting season it is well to go over it in this manner with a

hoe and cut off everything. It may trouble your conscience to cut off a likely shoot here and there in the midst of the harvesting season, but the plants will be all the more stimulated to send up good thick shoots. This occasional thorough hoeing will destroy all seedlings which may appear, and thus prevent the bed from becoming overcrowded with plants.

In the fall after the first frosts the stems should be cut close to the ground, removed and burned. The bed should be then covered to the depth of several inches with well rotted manure or compost. Before the plants start the next spring this should be well dug into the ground and the earth loosened to near the crowns.

Such is the whole story of successful asparagus growing for family use, as the writer knows it from experience for the past fifteen years with a bed only four feet wide and about twenty feet long which has never failed to yield an abundance and to spare. *E. B. Knerr.*

Switzerland is inaugurating a system of itinerant school teachers, who will visit and spend some time in the isolated outlying villages.

It is not generally known that the fur seal was once a land animal. The baby seals are actually afraid of the water, they would drown, if thrown into it, and have to learn to swim by repeated efforts. When once they have been taught to swim, however, they soon forget to walk.

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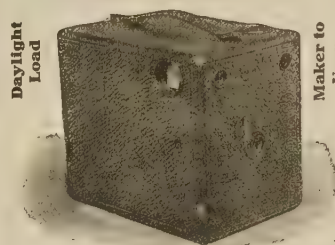
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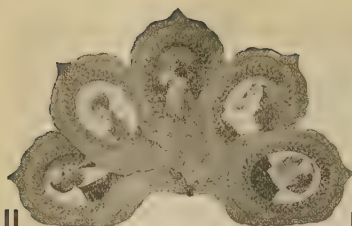
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Balm o' Gilead.

(Continued from page six.)

believe John is safe?" she cried, looking at him beseechingly.

Mr. Hallett looked at his daughter's worn, sad face, and even as he wondered if she could ever stand the bitterness of the loss of her young husband, he was impelled to comfort her by saying:

"Yes Jeannie I do, and we'll bear soon; now eat a little for I want your help in finding something that will please the old people, we can't go empty-handed."

The old farm kitchen was scrupulously fresh and clean. The tea table set with beautiful old India china. A priceless Wedgwood pitcher held old Mr. Hallett's roses. The boat shaped silver cake basket was piled high with the black wedding cake Mrs. Hallett had made weeks before, and the fresh bride's cake of her today's baking. The sweet old bride was dressed in a curiously made red merino frock; she had carefully altered it to suit the changes in her figure without spoiling its quaintness. Perhaps the high bibbed ruffled white apron she wore was a reproduction, but about that she kept her own counsel. Her white hair held a rose bud, and in her old sweetheart's eyes it was more beautiful than the brown braids he had loved to decorate in the same way.

"Someway ma," he kept saying, "this old coat's got a mite tight cross the back, an' these blamed trousers would fit a starved man, but I feel sort o' frisky in em an' believe you're foolin' when you say I'm old. My! but your coffee smells good, an' 'em biscuits look fine. Is supper more ready?"

"Put up the chairs, pa," she answered, "an' I'll soon have it set on; put one for Tom an' his Jeannie, fur such a thing might be they'd come."

"Good gracious ma an' they have," fairly shouted the old man as he rushed out the door and capered about his son; a fantastic figure in the blue broadcloth suit of his youth, every one of its brass buttons polished to its last degree of brightness.

Mrs. Hallett stood in the doorway dumb with happiness. Tom Hallett gazed at them both in great astonishment, fearing the years had done far more than mark the deeper lines he saw on their faces.

"Oh Grandma!" cried Jeannie as she rushed into the arms held out for her and was folded close to the tender mother heart. "Oh Grandma, you sweet blessed old girl, I remember you showed me that very dress and said, 'Grandpa loved it because he saw you first in it.'"

"It's down right good to see you Tom," cried his father, "for you see now ma an' me don't heve to eat all that pile o' our golden wedding cake ourselves."

"Is this your golden wedding day?" Jeannie asked, "well it must be mine as well for we heard before we left home the Portland is safe, and as my John is on it I'm happy enough to eat all the cake."

"Good news is sweet as balm o' Gilead," said grandma, wiping her eyes with the ruffled apron. "Now pa you sober up 'nough to come in an' give proper thanks fur our golden weddin' keepin'."

Talks About Flowers

(Continued from page four.)

New bulbs should be procured every spring. The old ones become too much exhausted to do well again.

Another bulb that you should contrive to plant near your tuberose, is the montebretia. This very excellent little plant comes adorned in fiery orange and scarlet, and is just the thing to brighten up a dark spot in the yard or to add to the looks of another flower, by contrast. It blossoms long and well, and is very good to cut for bouquet. Should be lifted in fall and treated as the gladioli. If you have a partially shaded bed that you do not know what to do with, plant it to tuberose begonias. These plants are almost entirely satisfactory. The flowers are large, brilliantly colored, and produced in endless abundance. Should be protected from rough winds. The tigridia is also one of our best summer-blooming bulbs. It deserves much encomium and extensive cultivation.

Plants Raised from Seed.

(Continued from page one.)

have discovered a charming use for them.

Seeds of the Chinese primrose are much easier to start. I do not trouble to sift the soil quite so fine for these and covet a trifle deeper. Cyclamen seed are quite large so do not have to be handled as carefully. I cover nearly half an inch. They require from four to six weeks to germinate, but are quite reliable. Being of slow growth, the plants need to be hurried as much as possible. I once had one bloom when less than a year old, but that was unusual.

A few years ago I tried the experiment of growing palms from seed. This should never be attempted when specimen plants are desired; only for the pleasure of watching their gradual development. I planted the seeds with the eye down, nearly an inch deep in a box of sandy loam, kept simply moist and warm,—and waited. Four months went by before there was a sign of life, and then one ambitious little fellow peeped up, looking like nothing more than a tiny blade of grass. A month later the rest put in an appearance. Different varieties require a different length of time for germination. I find that care must be taken when first transplanting not to break off the lower part of the roots, which naturally grow straight down and sometimes fasten to the bottom of the box. I also find that it is a great advantage to grow from three to five plants of the same variety in one pot. They not only take less room and less care, but when each plant has formed one character leaf I have a decorative specimen.

My Camphor tree seeds took three months to germinate, but I have now a shapely ornamental plant, interesting because from the bark (boiled) we get the camphor of commerce.

Yucca aloifolia (Spanish Dagger) seeds start readily, and make pretty decorative plants even when young.

These besides umbrella tree, heliotropes, abutilons, geraniums, etc., are some of my successes in raising house plants from seed.

Veronicas Old and New.

(Continued from page two.)

in long, dense spikes, they are plants by no means to be despised, and should find a home in the rear of a bright, sunny border.

A description of these plants would not be complete without making mention of the beautiful Veronica longifolia var subsessilis, a strong, compact, erect, robust form of longifolia, more freely branched and bearing larger and longer spikes of intense dark purple flowers. It is hardly recognizable as a form of longifolia, but it should be grown everywhere. It flowers in September and must be propagated by division of the roots, or from cuttings made from early growths in the spring.

One might continue to write an infinitum of the beauty and merits of this large and interesting family of plants, which contains nearly two hundred members, to say nothing of the numerous varieties varying in habit and manner of growth from the small, prostrate, creeping forms to the tall shrubby ones found

A Fine Kidney Remedy.

Mr. A. S. Hitchcock, East Hampton, Conn. (The Clothier), says if any sufferer from Kidney and Bladder Disease will write him, he will direct them to the perfect home cure he used. He makes no charge whatever for the favor.

EVERY LADY READ THIS

Years ago when I was a sufferer, an old nurse told me of a wonderful cure for Leucorrhoea, Displacements, Painful Periods, Uterine and Ovarian troubles. It cured me in one month. It is a simple, harmless action that can be performed by any one having the recipe. I will send it free to every suffering sister who writes to me. Address Mrs. C. G. HUDNUT, South Bend, Ind.

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THESE powerful achromatic Telescopes, made by one of the largest manufacturers of Europe (measures 12 inches closed and 3 1/2 feet open), are brass bound, with brass safety cap on ends to exclude dust, etc., with powerful lenses scientifically ground and adjusted. Guaranteed by the maker. Address EDWARDS & RAY CO., DEPT. F, MANHATTAN BUILDING, ST. PAUL, MINN.

in New Zealand. There are also the whippoor varieties, a very pretty and interesting class with closely pleated foliage, somewhat resembling a round, platted whippoor, natives of New Zealand, but soon to be introduced into American gardens.



HELPING THE GARDEN GROW.

After the garden's started success is largely a matter of cultivation. One kind of cultivation will compensate for drouth; another kind will keep the weeds in check between the showers, and in nine cases out of ten the chance of getting the cultivation done—or of getting anything else done for that matter—depends on the facilities at hand for doing it.

In the matter of care and expedition in garden cultivation, there is absolutely nothing on earth superior to the Iron Age Implements made by the Bateman Manufacturing Co.

The history of the Iron Age Implements reaches well back into the first half of the last century, the factory having been established sixty-eight years ago.

It is a curious fact that the most popular of their tools, the Combined Wheel Hoe and Seeder and the No. 1 Double and Single Wheel Hoe were made originally for use by the women of Holland in response to a demand for a seeder and cultivator with the necessary strength, and yet lighter than any similar implement previously manufactured. They are designed with a frame of bicycle construction, consisting of pipe coupled to malleable castings, and braced in such a manner that it cannot break nor get out of shape.

Since these are tools to be pushed solely by hand, their light weight must of necessity appeal to everyone, and especially to women who love to garden.

The New Iron Age Book, describing the entire line of field and garden implements, will be sent free to all who request it. Address Bateman Manufacturing Co., Box 124, Grenloch, N. J.

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It's members sold dry ginseng for \$13.00 per lb. in 1903. Membership fee \$1. Address, Sec.-Treas., Little York, N. Y.

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WITH HAIR ON FACE, NECK, ARMS AND ALL WILL BE EFFECTUALLY CURED BY THE NEW AND IMPROVED MYSTIC WHISK FRANK B. WHITE'S LILLY APPLIED REMEDY. IT REMOVES ALL UNDESIRABLE HAIR WITHOUT INJURY TO THE SKIN. IT IS THE MOST DELICATE SHAVE, BUT LEAVES IT SOFT AS THE LILLY. WRITE TODAY AND YOU WILL BE SURPRISED.

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Write to us at once, enclosing 25 cents, and we will ship to your nearest express office, express paid, this rich chiffon and straw braid dress hat. These hats are made of silk chiffon facing beautiful straw crown trimmed in roses, rich foliage and full rosette of silk mull. Having twenty different styles will enable us to suit both young and old. If you will tell us the color of your hair, age, weight and height we will positively send you a hat that will suit you exactly and be very becoming and pleasing to you. If you find the hat richer, more stylish and better than you can buy of your home milliner at \$5.00, pay the express agent \$2.00 and the hat is yours—for elegance and style it has never been equaled. Remember we are selling you this elegant chiffon and straw braid hat at merely the cost of the materials simply to increase our already large list of customers.

Write today without fail as you can not afford to miss this opportunity of getting so fine a hat for so little money.

WEYHER MILLINERY COMPANY
1870 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, Ill.

The Household.

(Continued from page nine.)

A shoe case on each clothespress door is a help to order.

Keys that never stay in place may be fastened to the knobs by small gilt cords.

To sweep, the attic, cellar or any very dusty floor, first dampen pieces of newspaper and throw around, they help collect the dust.

Doors that will not open easily and drawers that stick may be put in good condition by rubbing the offending edges with stove blacking or even a soft lead pencil.

Brass if much discolored can be cleaned with oxalic acid. Polishing of brasses may be avoided, if, when they are in fine condition they are varnished with a colorless shellac kept in any paint store.

Kerosene oil will remove finger marks without taking paint or varnish as well. It also helps to clean bath tubs and basins.

A soft chamois wrung from tepid water is good to dust fine furniture or wood-work.

It is said that a bit of camphor gum put in your silver chest will help to keep the metal bright.

Salt or Indian meal will brighten the carpets and keep the dust from rising.

Whiting and olive oil mixed to a paste will remove rust from nickel.

Ivory handles of knives and piano keys will preserve their creamy tone if wiped off twice a week with a cloth dampened with alcohol. If discolored a little whiting and spirits blended may be applied with a bit of flannel. Dry with chamois.

A simple polish for furniture can be made of one part turpentine and three parts linseed oil. Apply with plenty of "elbow grease." If the children see you use it, they will want to "do it too." Let them try on their own little rockers. It will have a double effect—beside the polish a desire to take care of things.

When a broom has been used for heavy sweeping it keeps longer if it is dipped in hot water shaken out well and allowed to hang up till dry.

A pair of old kid gloves, large size are good to put on when you sweep or whip rugs or trim vines.

Uses for Paper Bags.

In every household should be kept on hand a collection of the paper bags that are used by grocers for wrapping provisions, for they are most convenient for many purposes. A supply may be purchased, or those in which clean groceries, like sugar, eggs, etc., are purchased, may be smoothed out, and put away for future use, in a pasteboard box, where they will remain clean, and free from dust.

They are not only for wrapping

various articles that must be sent or carried away from the house, but are actually useful for saving work, and keeping things clean. Slipped over the jars of preserved fruit, and jelly tumblers when they are first filled, the contents will be kept perfectly dark; more than this, when one is ready to open a jar, it can be taken out of the bag, and will be found clean and free from dust. It is much less work to open a can that is clean, than to handle one that is covered with dust, and must be sponged off, before it can be touched with any comfort.

It requires a scouring to remove the dirt that gathers on the tops of jars each winter, if the new set of preserves are to have bright covers. All this work is avoided, by the use of the bags.

A collection of thick paper bags of medium size should be kept for shielding the hand when a stove must be cleaned. Whether it is a coal or gas range, slip the right hand into a paper bag before grasping the cleaning cloth, and the condition of your nails will not require half an hour's work, after the stove is clean.

The whisk broom, and all sorts of small brooms and brushes that are used in a kitchen, or for cleaning, about a house, will be kept free from dust, and last longer, if they are slipped into a paper bag when one is through using them. If a whisk broom is used for sprinkling clothes, it should be kept away from all dust; the flatirons, too, should be placed in paper bags, and laid away in a dry place. It is trifles such as these that insure the perfection in laundry work that is no trifle. If one hasn't the usual bag made of ticking, clothespins can be put away in a stout paper bag, where they will be kept perfectly clean. The clothes or boiler stick should have a case of some kind, and if there is not time for anything else, make a long bag of stout paper, pasted together, and keep the clothes stick in it, away from dust. Rubber bands will hold these bags in place, and sometimes a mere twist is sufficient.

In country homes, where kerosene lamps are used, clean paper bags turned over the chimneys, after the lamps are trimmed each morning, keep the glass free from dust and steam, and one has a clear chimney when the lamp is lighted.

These are but a few of the uses to which these bags may be put, but in every home, there will be ways to use them which will become apparent, when the housewife discovers how really useful they are.

Mary Taylor Ross.

Interesting Facts.

From each weather bureau station the appearance of the first robin in spring must be reported by telegraph to the Washington office. The movements of no other bird or animal are noted.

In the fortified rock of Gibraltar there are sixty-two miles of tunnels. They are stocked with an ample supply of arms, ammunition and provisions in readiness for a siege.

Paper car-wheels, made by pressure from rye straw paper, are usually in condition for a second set of steel tires after the first set is worn out by a run of three hundred thousand miles.

The total exports from the United States to all parts of the world during the eight months ending with February, 1904, were valued at \$1,048,000,000 against \$982,000,000 in the corresponding months of last year, and the imports were \$654,000,000 in value, against \$681,000,000 in the corresponding months of last year.

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Rotary Cake Cutter
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Send No Money

We will ship to your nearest express office this beautiful \$4.50 shirt waist suit for only \$2.95 C. O. D. with full privilege of examination.

We do not ask one cent until you have seen and approved of the goods.

Write today sending us your name, address and nearest express office, and following measurements: (Bust measure for shirt waist, waist measure of skirt, and length of skirt from waist line in front to bottom desired length) and state color desired, either Blue, Gray or Tan, and we will make shipment at once.

This suit is made of a very handsome "Newport Shirt Waist Suiting." Shirt waist has a full blouse front, new wide shoulder effect, four follow plaits down front wide box plait in center, garnished with a cluster of perpendicular tucks. Box plait is piped with white Linen, full bishop sleeve with two plaits running from shoulder to elbow. Cuffs button at wrist with small white Pearl buttons, fancy collar and belt to match. Nine gore plaited skirt with a one inch follow plait over each seam. Plait on each side of front gore piped with white linen, inverted plait back, has 3 inch hem at bottom. Extra sizes subject to 20 per cent extra charges.

Remember we do not ask one cent until you see the suit and find it satisfactory. Examine it at your express office. Be convinced that it is what we claim it to be, and is equal to what you have bought for \$4.50 then pay express agent \$2.95 and express charges and the suit is yours.

References—Metropolitan Trust & Savings Bank, Chicago. Capital, \$750,000.00.

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Dear Sir:—I received your kind letter and must say that your Stomach Tablets have done me a great deal of good. My stomach is so much better that I can now eat most anything without hurting me, and I now sleep well and of mornings feel refreshed.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Julia A. Prentiss, Curtis, Neb.

John Morrow, Springfield, Ohio.

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Respectfully yours, Jane Dively, Pavia, Pa.

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The WALDO is long wearing, neat, does not show dirt or lose color, easy to wash. Fine for boys to work or play in, during Spring and Summer. Saves the mother lots of mending, washing and expense.

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light in weight, and comes in two Colors—Royal Blue with white stripes, and Raven Black with red stripes.

We sell direct from knitting mills and we pay express. We guarantee our WALDO SWEATERS. MONEY BACK if you want it. Send for sweater circular its FREE. When ordering give the boy's chest measure.

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sell for \$2.50 to \$6.00 a doz.; hotels and restaurants charge 75 cents to \$1.50 an order, serving one squab. There is good money breeding them: a flock makes country life pay handsomely. Squabs are raised in ONE MONTH; a woman can do all the work. No mixing feed, no night labor, no young to attend (parent birds do this). Send for FREE BOOK, "How to Make Money with Squabs," and learn this rich industry. Plymouth Rock Squab Co., 289 Atlantic Ave., Boston, Mass.

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"I am Thinking To-night." The latest popular success. Beautiful words and music, 50c. a copy. Sent for 15c and names of six musical friends. H. A. Snyder & Co., Chemung, Ill.

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Anyone wishing to secure a first class self-playing music box, which will play waltzes, two steps, sacred and classical music, can do so by writing the Eastern Drug Association, Dept. V. P., 17 Warren St., New York, who have secured control of one of the most interesting and novel music boxes ever placed on the market and are giving it away to every person who sells only \$3 worth of their remedies.

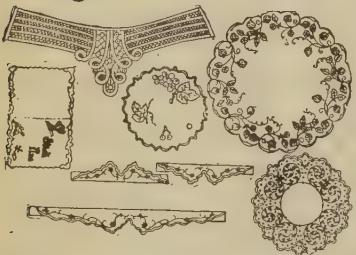
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Cured Her Husband of Drinking.

Write Her Today and She Will Gladly Tell You How She Did It.

My husband was a hard drinker for over 20 years and had tried in every way to stop but could not do so. I at last cured him by a simple home remedy which any one can give secretly. I want every one who has drunkenness in their homes to know of this and if they are sincere in their desire to cure this disease and will write to me, I will tell them just what the remedy is. My address is Mrs. Margaret Anderson, Box 459 Hillburn, N. Y. I am sincere in this offer. I have sent this valuable information to thousands and will gladly send it to you if you will but write me to-day. As I have nothing whatever to sell, I want no money.

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Just send your name and address, so we may tell you how to get this fine skirt absolutely free. YOU CAN HAVE ONE for us we are going to give away 5,000 of them. This is an honest, straightforward offer, made by a responsible firm who always do as they agree. This fine 7-gored, tailor made skirt has all seams double stitched and twelve rows of stitching at bottom. It is made of black or blue high grade material. We send free samples for you to choose from. Use a very handsome skirt, stylish, up-to-date, carefully finished, and we make it to your measure so that it is sure. Any girl or lady can send one of these fine skirts in a few minutes. It is so easy that it will surprise you. All the ladies say so.

Do Not Send Any Money but just write that you want to earn one of these skirts and we will send full particulars by return mail. Nothing adds more to a lady's appearance than a handsome tailor made skirt. Write at once for full particulars and free samples of our goods. Address People's Popular Monthly, 269 Man. Bldg., Des Moines, Ia.

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Improved farms can be bought cheaper, value considered in Virginia and the South than any where else. Many Northern farmers are buying. Land is adapted to grain, cattle and fruits. Good markets are convenient. The climate is delightful.

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No. 1,286—Nottoway County—700 acres; fine old Colonial brick mansion; 12 rooms, good condition in every way; considered to be one of the finest farms in the whole country. Good neighbors. Postoffice within one mile. Considerable bottom, good. A bargain. Price \$9,000.
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We have many other elegant farms and country seats in Virginia and other states. Small catalogue free. Large catalogue entitled "Virginia and Carolinas Illustrated," for 25c. This has descriptions of hundreds of farms, with photographs. Finest farm catalogue issued. Address THE AMERICAN LAND CO., 42 Kelly Building, Springfield, Ohio.

Flowers for the Brave.

Daisies white with your hearts of gold,
Violets in bonnets blue,
Woodland beauties with names untold,
Wet with the morning dew;
Hands will tremble and eyes grow dim,
As you in your bright array
Are gently laid on some grave's green
rim
By the soldiers old and gray.

They will go back to tasks that call
Still for their hands to do;
If in the struggle they faint or fall,—
Men in the army blue,—
Love remembers the deed they wrought,
Love measures not by hours;
When the last vet'ran's battle's fought,
We'll cover his grave with flowers.

Helen M. Richardson.

Memories of Bee Hunting.

On one of the shelves in a medicine closet in my office is a little wooden box made up of several compartments, in one of which is a dark piece of honey-comb still fragrant with the odor of anise. The sight of this little box recalls to me that when a young man I spent some time in the country for the benefit of my health. It was then that I experienced the delights of being in the open air, following the almost invisible path of the honey bee, sometimes ending search at the abode of a wild swarm more often at the hives of neighboring farmers.

The sport of bee hunting is not very generally indulged in, especially in this part of the country; and from observation I find that the art is understood by very few. Most of these few understand the theory of "starting a line" and following it up, but no one can appreciate the sport of bee hunting until he himself has gone on the trail of the little pollen gatherers. It seems to be a rather general opinion that it is a dull sport, but I have learned from experience that to set out in the dewy morning with bee box, anise, lunch, and minor articles, start a line, recline in the shade of a tree while they "draw in" then follow it up, sometimes taking a couple of hours other times perhaps a couple of days, makes an ideal outing.

I treasure highly the remembrances of one summer. I was recovering from a severe illness and to regain my full health spent the following year at my grandfather's farm. I greatly enjoyed the outdoor life but being used to the city was rather lonesome. On a farm about a quarter of a mile distant lived a fellow by the name of Robbins. He was about my own age and knew almost everything concerning the characteristics of the various inhabitants of the neighboring woods and streams. Naturally to me, ignorant of how to set a trap or hook a trout, he appeared the ideal companion on my tramps and then he also had the knack of making me have a good time. But as he had enough to keep him busy on his father's farm I had to dispense with his companionship a good deal oftener than I wished.

One afternoon he came over to our place, and saying that he was at liberty for the remainder of the day asked me if I would like to go with him and find a swarm of bees. Of course I was ready to go, especially as I had never been bee hunting nor did I know anything concerning it. That day we found no swarm but the trip made me enthusiastic about the sport. Robbins suggested that I try it alone. I was doubtful of my ability to accomplish much alone but having nothing else to do decided to try it, and Robbins gave me an old bee box and some anise.

The next morning I started off being provided with bunch and an axe besides several other necessities. Along about noon, after making pretty bungling work all of the morning, I managed to start a line of black bees and was pleased to notice that there were several favorable indications that this might be a wild swarm which is generally made up of black bees while farmers generally domesticate the pure or half Italian swarms. Then my line went straight for a wild and wooded swamp and the bees were not gone long enough and "drew in" to quickly to believe that they went over the swamp. That night I left my bee box on a stick at the very edge of the swamp and I knew that the swarm was nearby as the bees "drew in" thick and fast.

The next day I started in from where I left off the night before but now I met trouble. I knew the swarm was nearby but could not find it. The forest was thick and there were numerous old hollow trees suitable for a bee tree, and I spent several hours gazing up at the different ones in the hope of spying the line of bees entering and going out of the little knot hole which probably served as entrance. But I had no luck. What bothered me was when I set my box up in one glade the bees went in one direction, when I set it up in another they seemed to go elsewhere.

I was puzzled and went home early leaving the box so as to hold the line. That evening I called on Robbins. He was very much interested when I explained my trials and promised to help me in the morning. So next day together with my uncle we started out. The others were of the opinion that they could easily find the tree, but they were evidently wrong as at noon they had not found it. I could see that they were puzzled. About three o'clock Robbins found the tree purely through luck, while going through a dense spoonwood thicket he came on a medium sized chestnut tree. While mechanically gazing at the branches he heard a buzzing and looking around he discovered a line of bees going in and out of a knot hole. The bee tree had been found at last. My uncle and I were soon summoned and we found out why it had escaped our notice. The entrance, instead of being near the top was at the bottom near the ground, there being a cavity in the lower part of the tree. Marking the tree with our initials we went home. The next night going up with a buck saw, we sawed at a short distance below and above the entrance, and nailing on boards at both ends made a hive which we carried home, and at my last visit to the farm several years ago, the swarm was one of the best my grandfather owned.

Dr. P. P. Patsley.

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A Pale Blue Cashmere Gown.

The Rev. John Lawrence sat at his study table, leaning on his elbow, his usually busy pen held idly between his fingers. He gazed far over the plains, a trance-like expression in his thoughtful eyes; he believed that the time was coming when those plains would be peopled, and, with the hopefulness which made his missionary life beautiful, he seemed to see the church leading, inspiring and ministering to these people. Already he had visions of a school wherein in his own wife should be the ruling spirit; visions of a hospital, a guild-house and clubrooms, where these savages might grow less savage. Even the fact that thus far only one poor little wooden church building was to be found in many miles, did not in the least interfere with his dreams.

How long he might have dreamed, no one knows, but he was recalled by a delicious voice calling to him:

"I am twenty-two inches around the waist, John, and my skirt length is forty-three. You know you asked me yesterday."

"Sure enough," he answered, with a little start, taking up the tape line which lay conspicuously on his desk. "I must get that letter off today; but I'd better measure you myself. You probably measured with a string. That's the feminine way, I believe."

His wife came in, feather duster in hand, and as he drew the line about her waist, he dropped a kiss upon her forehead.

"I hope they will send you something pretty."

Mrs. Lawrence burst into laughter. "The idea of anything pretty in a missionary box, John! Who ever heard of it? It's against the nature of things. Perhaps it is wicked, but I have sometimes thought that they made them as ugly as possible. Do you remember the snuff-colored dressing jacket with the black fringe?"

"Wasn't that pretty?" he queried. "I always thought it was very elegant, except when the fringe dipped in the coffee."

"You dear dreamer! You don't know what is pretty. You don't see anything but your beloved Sunday-school and night classes and sick people. A rheumatic old Indian-woman is beautiful to you if—"

"If she is a Christian! Yes, I admit it," he said, gently; "all of God's creatures are beautiful to me, and one of them most beautiful," and again he gave her a loving caress and resumed his work.

"Sheets, pillow cases, street suit for my wife, clerical suit for self, overcoat—I hate to ask for that, but it is such a necessity in this bleak land."

He read once again the friendly letter, in which he had been urged to make known all his needs, assuring him that they would be supplied, so far as possible, by a branch of the Woman's Auxiliary.

These boxes, which had so irked the pride of many a missionary, never offended John Lawrence. He gave little thought to self. His Divine Master had lived on alms, and his own horizon was too rich, too broad, for any petty egotism to create even a speck upon it; but he sometimes reflected with regret, his wife keenly disliked this phase of missionary life. He could not forget at times, that he had taken her from a luxurious home; but had he not given her a greater opportunity to do God's work? and was she not doing it sweetly and uncomplainingly? He would try to believe that she did not care.

In the meantime, Mrs. Lawrence was dusting the sitting-room, and she had come to a stand-still before a little ivory miniature of herself, the price of which would almost have paid for everything in their modest home. It was made ten years before, when she had just finished school and was archly charming in that dainty gown. How becoming it was, and how much he had admired her in it!

"Alice, is there anything else you want? We are to mention everything we need, and they will supply us as far as possible."

"Yes," she called, a little sarcastically,

"please tell them I need very much a pale blue cashmere gown," and then she smiled at the absurdity of such a request from a missionary's wife. "Imagine the consternation that would create," she thought, "if he really would ask for such a thing."

She replaced the miniature with a sigh. Was it a crime to love pretty things? And would she ever have any again? Her trousseau was long ago exhausted, and now she lived and moved and had her being in black things and brown things, and all things that wouldn't show dirt. Oh, dear! but—blessed after thought!—wouldn't she rather be the wife of John Lawrence, in black brilliants and brown serges, than anybody else in the world?

The president of St. Mary's Auxiliary was rapping loudly for order. She was reading a letter saying that the Rev. John Lawrence would be deeply grateful for a suit, an overcoat, etc. It was when she came to the overcoat that the confusion arose; for one lady had a practically new overcoat which her present coachman being stout, could not wear. It was exactly the Rev. Mr. Lawrence's size, but, being a surtout, she questioned whether it would be the correct thing for clerical wear. The entire auxiliary set itself to argue this point, when the president stopped them.

"Ladies, we can discuss this matter later. Let me finish reading this letter. Where was I? 'Sheets, pillow cases, table linen, and—' what is this? 'a pale blue cashmere gown!'"

A pale blue cashmere gown! Had she asked for an automobile coat the request could not have produced more surprise. There was a deep silence. Even the president found nothing to say for some time.

"A little unusual," she finally said. "Well, I never had a pale blue cashmere gown in my life," gasped some one.

"Pale blue! So perishable!" another said, feebly.

"And cashmere! So out of style!" a third added.

"She must be some poor little country soul," the secretary said.

"Well, whoever she is, she ought to be reprimanded. The idea of such worldliness in a missionary's wife!"

"He should have known better than to have asked for it!"

"The idea of our money going for a pale blue cashmere gown!"

So the comments went around, till everybody had had her say; some of them had had two or three "says," and they were semingly gasping for breath to say something even more severe, when a bombshell fell in their midst:

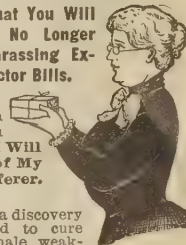
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"Why shouldn't she have a pale blue cashmere gown? She is probably a young woman, and maybe has not a single pretty thing! Oh, gracious!" and the speaker grew so energetic that she arose and stood facing them, her face rosy with excitement. "I have helped with box after box in this society, and never have I seen a really pretty thing go into one of them! They are so sadly practical. How it will wear, how it will wash, whether it will show dirt—I sympathize with this woman away out there among those Indians, dependent on us hard-hearted things, for the little she wants. God knows," she added, even more earnestly, "where they get the grace to sustain them in their work! As for this gown!"—her voice trembled a little—"let us give it to her. Cashmere is cheap, and just imagine her pleasure; and do you know, I think a pretty gown would have a cheerful effect on both herself and her husband. Perhaps it might even convert a few more Indians!" She sat down, a little embarrassed by the feeling she had shown. "We might make her a mother Hubbard, if you are so bent on it," some one said, doubtfully. "Made up plainly it would not cost much."

"But it mustn't be a mother Hubbard. I wouldn't doom even a woman living among the Indians to that! If we send it at all, let it be pretty. Let us put our hearts into it and make it a beautiful surprise for her. She will probably expect something ugly, if she expects it at all."

"I don't know why we should discriminate this way in favor of Mrs. John Lawrence. We have never done it before." A severe voice threw a damper on the proceedings.

"Mrs. John Lawrence," echoed another; "pray let me see that letter. Mrs. John Lawrence was an honor student in my class at college in 1890, and I believe I am safe in saying that there is no one here who could surpass her in either intellect or beauty. I remember now that she married a missionary enthusiast and went out to those wilds cheerfully."

The speaker crossed the room rapidly and approached the advocate of the blue gown.

"I will gladly help you with the gown, and we will make it beautiful as a dream."

How quickly the idea became infectious! Everybody offered to do something or to give something. It was almost as delightful as dressing a doll! St. Mary's Auxiliary had turned out many a box, but never had anything aroused such interest as this new bit of work. It became a fad; with its silken linings, its dainty frills of lace, its "fagoting" and exquisite accessories, the beautiful Empire gown lay complete. The Auxiliary women who were packing the box stopped frequently to admire and almost to caress it.

"I hate to see it go," said the secretary.

"It has done us more good than anything we ever did. What a lovely idea it was!" the treasurer said. "I don't begrudge the money at all."

"Let me fasten this in." Some one bent over the gown and tacked in a little sachet of violet.

"And I must slip this handkerchief into its bosom," another deftly tucked an embroidered kerchief into its folds.

"I have written this note to my dear old friend, and have told her what a pleasure this has been;" and the note, too, was pinned to the blue gown. And so, with little final adjustment, and pats of admiration, the blue gown, soft and rustling and enveloped in white tissue paper, was put into its individual box, and shipped away, with more practical things, to the land of the Indians and the plains.

Mrs. Lawrence came home somewhat discouraged from her sewing school one afternoon, to find her house in great disorder. Everything was covered with clothes, it seemed. The box had come, and her husband had lost no time in opening it. The street suit for which she had asked confronted her from the bookcase; dark, neat and serviceable. She examined it with enthusiasm. "They were so good, weren't they, John?"

"Good! My dear, the Auxiliary is



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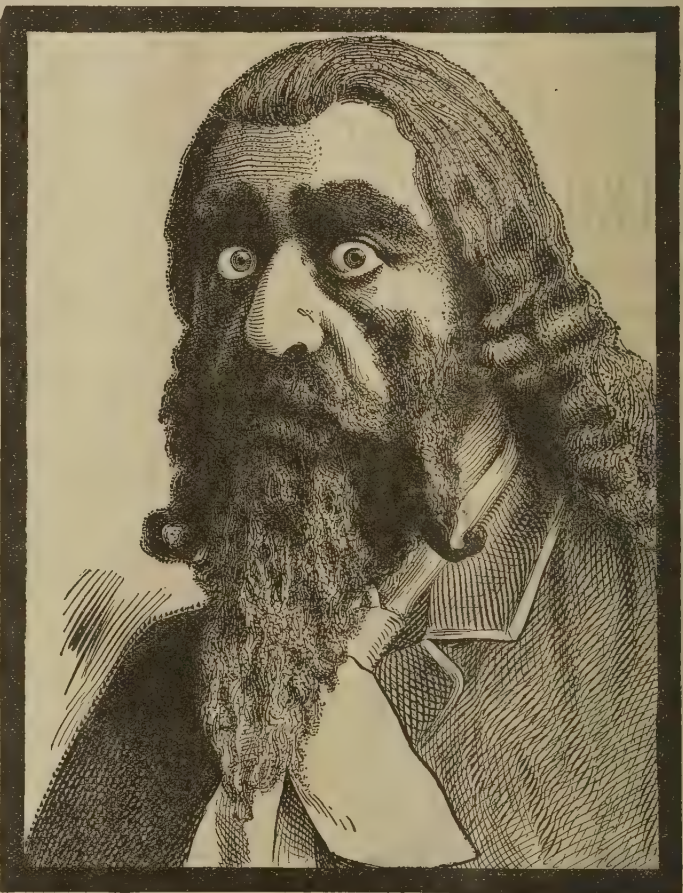
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always good. Now, don't say anything about your brown sack with the black fringe! The Auxiliary—well, you know what I think of it! See! They have sent us everything, even to the last thing on the list—your blue cashmere gown! He handed her the box.

"My pale blue cashmere gown! John Lawrence! You didn't really write that, did you? Oh, what must they have thought?" She sank into a chair, pale and distressed.

"I think the dress tells what they thought." He lifted the delicate garment as if it were a baby.

"Silk! Lace! Perfume! A train! John, I can't believe it is mine! And I can't help crying! I didn't mean it. I said it in a half-joking, half-cynical way, never thinking you would ask for it. I wouldn't have dared to ask for it, and see how they have repaid me for my unfaith! Everything is so beautiful, so dainty! There's so much love in it, John! That's what touches me. It means the love of women who saw in me only a servant of God. When you write, tell them this means more to me than anything that ever happened."

Late that night she sat with her old friend's note. She had written a long, heart-full letter. She turned to her husband with moist eyes:

"I don't believe I ever told you before, John; but it is very sweet to be a missionary's wife."—Sarah S. Pratt, in the *Living Church*.

Philippine Pineapple Cloth.

Thousands of primitive hand looms worked by women are in use in the Philippine Islands, and the materials manufactured from the fibers of plants and trees are almost infinite in their variety, despite the crudeness of the machines available. Chief among the fibers in favor of the natives is that of the pineapple. The "pina" gauze, made of the pineapple spikes alone, is as delicate as chiffon and far more durable. It seems like a fairy tale that a lot of little brown barbarians should be able to fashion a fabric rivaling the finest output of French factories, and from nothing but a heap of prickly pineapple tops and a few rude tools. To do this they use only the best leaves, and these firmly tied into bundles, are placed under heavy stones in the bed of a running stream. After two or three days of this treatment they are exposed for a time to the action of the sun and air. Each piece is closely inspected to make sure the process of decomposition was thorough, and if it was not, the leaves are subjected a second time to the operation. The fibrous threads are at last wholly separated from the cellulose and lignose particles and cleaned from the sap and gummy substance. The whole is then beaten with a rude sort of wooden mallet, grooved on the faces like a fluting machine. The threads are kept moist while this beating is in progress and the separate threads are thus blended into one mass. In color these fibres vary from cream and light gray to pure white. After this "pineapple cloth" is finished, figures are stamped on it with blocks and afterwards worked or embroidered by hand.—*Citrograph*.

Interesting Facts.

The bureau of statistics reports that American trade with Porto Rico has increased five-fold since annexation.

The cellar in the Bank of France resembles a large warehouse. Silver coin is stored there in 800 large barrels.

Last year's iron production in Germany was the largest on record, the enormous total of 10,085,634 tons being placed on the market.

The most expensive fur is that of the black fox of Kamschatka, the skin of which, when dressed, becomes a very attractive blue. A single skin is worth as much as \$1,000.

The Benedict Arnold house, a Revolutionary war landmark at New Haven, is being torn down. The front doors and some of the colonial windows have been given to the New Haven Colony Historical Society for preservation. For many years the old house where General Arnold lived when an apothecary before the war, has been the center of several store yards. Its interior has been a warehouse.

Wild Flowers.

Oh give to me the daisy sweet,
That's trampled 'neath our wand'ring feet,

The violet from her dewy bed,
That Nature o'er the earth hath spread.
Oh give to me these sweet wild flowers,
They'll serve to cheer the lonely hours.
They speak to me of Nature's birth,
And graceful presence on the earth.
They speak from out the dale and dell,
"God loves the woods and plains so well."
They say to wand'ring passers by,
"God placed here beauty for thine eye."
They speak to children romping over,
"God placed us here for each gay rover,
The rich or poor may heed our call,
God placed us here for each and all."

Lillian Olive Huey.

An Extinct Mineral Spring.

For many centuries mineral springs have been utilized for their curative, healing power. The ancients knew of them and had their favorite springs and baths, to which they resorted when weak of body or feeble of health. We read in the Testament of the Pool of Bethesda, whose waters were troubled twice a year and at these times possessed healing powers of a remarkable nature, which caused them to be sought by thousands, who tramped many miles to drink of and bathe in the waters, receiving therefrom new life, health and strength.

The mineral properties which give to the waters of the world's mineral springs their curative virtues come from the rock or mineral ore, through which the water is filtered on its way to its outlet, only a small proportion of the medicinal power in the ore being thus assimilated or absorbed by the liquid stream. The rock contains that which furnishes the medicinal and healing power, the water serving only as a conveyance to carry but a small part of its properties to the surface.

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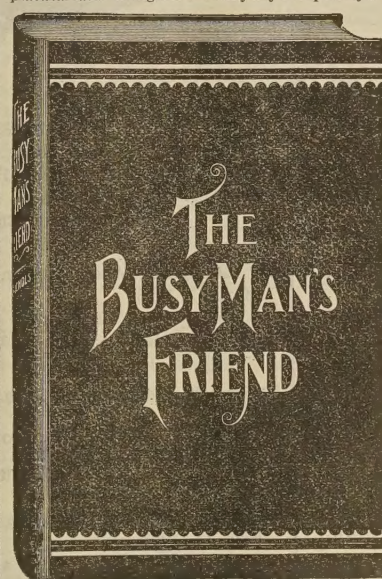
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And the old love's singing, too.

The old earth and the old love
Are young as yesterday,
When the May sun shines in the blue
above
And the heart is warm as May.

A May breeze, a May bough,
And the old earth leaves the tomb;
A tender thought, a new vow,
And the old love comes in bloom.

The old earth and the old love
Begin anew to-day.
When the heart is true as the sky above,
And life is warm as May.

Ethelwyn Wetherald.

Humorous.

The mother of a little girl named Marjorie had become greatly interested in domestic economy. Several courses at a fashionable cooking school had opened her eyes to the fact that nothing should be wasted. The servants were almost daily admonished not to throw away any material that could be recooked or hashed or served up in some new form. Of course, much advice reached the child's ears.

Not long afterwards a kitten belonging to the next-door neighbor died suddenly. Half an hour later, Marjorie appeared before her mother, carrying the sad and drooping remains.

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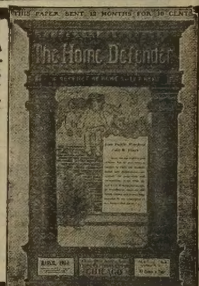
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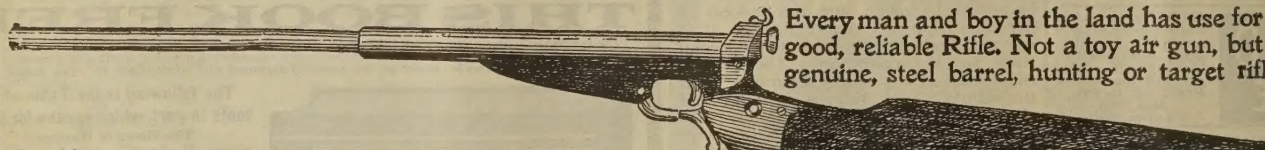
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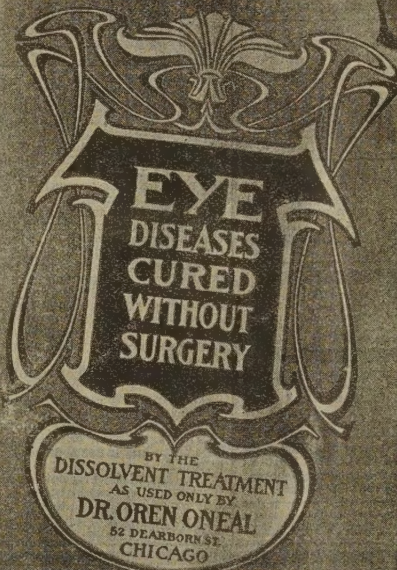
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A Postal Gets This Book

I WANT the name and address of every person, Man, woman and child, In every country on the globe. Who is troubled in any way with the eyes. If you are not afflicted send me the names of your neighbors or friends who are.

You will be conferring a favor on them. I will send to each name and address My book (24th edition) illustrated above. It contains much valuable information About the eyes, diet, bath, exercise, etc.; Tell how sight can be restored to the blind And all the eye diseases cured At patient's own home Quickly and at small expense. I have for more than twenty years been Treating and curing all manner of eye troubles in all parts of the world.

Those who are afflicted in any way with their eyes are Welcome to my opinion free of charge. Just write me a short history of your case As you understand it. I will write you a personal letter of advice which with My book will be of great value to you.

Some Symptoms of Serious Eye Troubles

Dimness of vision
Seeing spots, specks, etc., dance before your eyes
The atmosphere seems smoky and foggy
Seeing better some days than others
Seeing better sideways than straight forward
Seeing better in the evening or early morning than at midday.
Seeing objects double or multiplied
Seeing a halo or circle about a lamp light
Pain in or about the eyes
Constant or periodic headaches.

If you have any one of the above symptoms You should seek my advice at once. I have never made a promise which I did not fulfill. My liberal offer may mean much to you.

Every reader of Vick's Family Magazine knows that I am thoroughly responsible or my advertisements could not appear in these columns as they have regularly for years.

I Have Restored Sight to Thousands

HERE are two letters which tell the invariable experience of my patients.

Cured of Cataract.

Dr. Oren Oneal, Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Doctor:—It certainly gives me pleasure to make you an acknowledgment for the skillful manner in which you have treated so successfully the difficulty in my eyes. Last winter I caught cold and it settled in my right eye, which became very painful. The result was a cataract for it became very dim, in fact it was practically useless as far as seeing was concerned. I might say providentially at that time I saw your advertisement in *McClure's*. Your *Dissolvent Method* struck me as being something new in the treatment of eye trouble, so I was induced to try it. The result justified the venture, for after a little over two months' treatment, under your direction, the shadow disappeared and the eye so far as I am able to discover, is perfectly normal.

Thanking you for your skill and kind and sympathetic treatment of the case, believe me, I shall always bear you in grateful remembrance. Yours truly, E. H. N.Y.E.

247 Columbus Avenue, Suite 9,

Boston, Mass.

Congested Optic Nerve Cured

Dr. Oren Oneal, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Doctor: I want to thank you for the great relief your treatment has given me for Congestion of the Optic Nerve. Having been so greatly benefited by the treatment, I feel that it is my duty to you and to others afflicted as I have been to make you a statement, which you are at perfect liberty to use if you desire to do so.

Having had weak eyes from childhood, I paid very little attention to them except to wear glasses until they became so bad that I began to fear blindness. When I consulted you I was suffering great pain in my eyes; could not see to read ordinary print without difficulty; eyes were drawn and full; could scarcely raise them to the light. I had come to the point when I felt that something *must* be done, and seeing your advertisement, decided to write to you. Your reply was satisfactory, and I placed myself under your care for "Home Treatment"—and can truthfully say that from the second treatment my eyes began to improve; vision became clearer; tension in eyeball became less, light did not affect them as much; and I could read with much more ease.

I told no one, except my husband, that I was being treated, as I did not wish a discouraging word. Friends soon noticed the change in my eyes and asked if I was doing anything for them, for they had been so dull and were now so much brighter.

I am very grateful to you and do not hesitate to recommend your treatment to any one needing relief in your specialty. I remain, Very truly yours,

Mrs. Laura E. Wortman, 1520 Madison Ave.

Baltimore, Md.

THIS book will tell you How to care for your eyes How to diet, bathe and exercise. How you can cure yourself at home of

Blindness resulting from
Cataracts,
Optic Nerve diseases,
Glaucoma,
Iritis,
Opacities, Scums, Scars and Films,
Eye Strain,
Granulated Lids and Pannus,
Pterygium, etc.
In from one to three months.

Here are the names of a few I have cured. Write them and convince yourself

Mrs. S. C. Willard, Libertyville, Ill., cured of Cataracts of 20 years standing; William Cronoble, Winslow, Ill., cured 10 years ago of Cataracts; Mrs. Anne E. Simmons, Hobart, N. Y., Paresis of Optic Nerve; Mrs. E. M. Cooper, Ridgeway, Minn., cured of Stenosis of Tear Duct; Mrs. Herman Burdick, Richland Center, Wis., cured of Hemorrhage of the Retina, which had blinded her; Albert J. Staley, Hynes, Los Angeles County, Cal., cured of Cataracts of 22 years standing; Mrs. C. H. Sweetland, Hamburg, Iowa, cured of Paresis of Optic Nerve; Mrs. Jane Hunt, Binghamville, Vt., cured of Granulated Lids and Iritis; Miss Ella E. Heacock, Box 224, North Yakima, Wash., cured of Weak Eyes and Congested Optic Nerve; Mrs. Julia Lambert, 29 Whitney St., Nashua, N. H., cured of Cataracts; Mrs. Emma I. Carter, Tenstrike, Minn., cured of bad case of Granulated Lids and Optic Nerve Paralysis of 22 years standing.

Just send for the book.

Don't send any money—even a postage stamp is necessary. Physicians either advise the "Knife" or say "Nothing can be done" when consulted in such cases as Mr. Nye's, Mrs. Wortman's or the others whose names are given here.

I cure such cases in the patient's own home, easily, quickly and at small expense.

Just at present all I ask you to do is to send for the book. It will be sent free of expense to any part of the world.

If you wish my advice

Describe your case the best you can and

I will write you a personal letter

The book and advice are both free and may be all that is necessary to effect a cure in your case.

Address

OREN ONEAL, M. D.

Suite 931, 52 Dearborn St.

Chicago, U. S. A.